

NEW ISSUE



AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY

1977-78

RECENT ILLNESS

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AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY

1977-78

RECENT ILLNESS

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Fred Wensing on Canberra (062) 526425 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra (062) 526627 or State offices.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication is one of a series containing estimates from the 1977-78 Australian Health Survey which was conducted throughout Australia to obtain information about the health of Australians and the use of and need for various health-related services and facilities.

2. The data contained in this publication relate to what had been recent illnesses at the time of the survey i.e. illnesses, injuries and other health problems which caused any symptom of ill health in the two weeks before interview. The data are in more detail than previously published and include some revised figures.

3. Other publications from the survey contain tables on different aspects of the survey. A description of all topics collected in the survey is contained in *Australian Health Survey 1977-78, Information Paper* (4340.0).

Scope and coverage

4. Interviews were conducted at a random sample of private dwellings from all parts of Australia excluding rural Northern Territory. Certain groups of persons, such as occupants of non-private dwellings (e.g. hospitals, motels, hotels), diplomatic personnel and persons from overseas holidaying in Australia, were excluded from the survey. The exclusion of persons currently in hospitals, nursing homes and other health institutions should be borne in mind in assessing the significance of the results.

Survey method

5. Each person over the age of 14 was interviewed personally, except those persons either too old or too sick to be interviewed, where relatives were interviewed on their behalf. Wherever possible, information for children aged less than 15 years was obtained from their mothers.

6. To measure recent illness the following procedure was used: respondents were supplied with a list of common complaints or symptoms (e.g. sore throat, headache, chest pain, seriously overweight, trouble sleeping) and asked if they had any of these complaints or symptoms during the two weeks prior to their interview. (The complete list of complaints supplied to respondents is shown in Tables 14 and 17). Interviewers also stressed that the listed complaints were examples only and asked if the person had had any other complaints. Having reported any complaints experienced, survey respondents were then asked what they believed had caused the complaints. The condition believed to have caused the complaint or complaints was recorded in the respondent's own words. Answers ranged from medical diagnoses of illness to terms such as "tension", "family arguments" etc.

7. The main aim of using this method was to obtain the details of illnesses and other morbid conditions that have the potential to become a demand on the provision of health services. Employment of this

methodology does, however, produce a large number of seemingly minor conditions which may or may not ultimately present themselves as a health problem requiring medical treatment (See also paragraph 23(b)).

8. Provision was made in this survey to record up to five such recent illnesses per respondent.

Definitions

9. *Complaint* — any reported departure from a normal state of physical or mental well-being in the two weeks before interview, whether or not caused by an incident occurring within that period.

10. *Recent illness* — the illness, injury or other morbid conditions described by the respondent as the origin of a complaint or group of complaints that were reported to have been experienced in the two weeks prior to interview. However, if the respondent's description was not a morbid condition (e.g. "the weather", "overwork") the complaint itself was coded as the recent illness. By definition, long lasting illnesses that had not recently caused any complaints were excluded. However, minor conditions that had caused any complaint in the two weeks before interview were included as recent illness.

11. *Major recent illness* —

- (a) Where respondents reported only one recent illness, that illness was taken as their major recent illness.
- (b) Where respondents reported more than one recent illness, their major recent illness was the one they identified as concerning them most.

12. *Doctor* — any general practitioner, surgeon, or other specialist, physician, hospital intern or resident. Specifically EXCLUDED are dentists, dental surgeons, physiotherapists, osteopaths, chiropractors, opticians and radiographers.

13. *Doctor consultation* — any consultation with a doctor about a respondents' own health.

14. *Usual major activity* — all persons aged 15 years or more were asked to indicate their usual major activity.

Categories used in the survey are:

- . working in a job, trade, business or profession
- . retired
- . home duties
- . permanently unable to work
- . full-time tertiary student
- . school student.

15. *Day of reduced activity* — a day in which a person cut down on his/her usual activities for all or most of that day due to illness or injury. In this publication, only those persons who reported recent

illness are shown in the tables relating to days of reduced activity. Details of reduced activity were not obtained for persons under 2 years of age.

16. *Day in bed* – a day in which a person stayed in bed for all or most of the day due to illness or injury. A day in bed is also a day of reduced activity.

Classification of recent illness

17. Each recent illness recorded was classified to the most appropriate category of the Eighth Revision (1965) of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) to which the following modifications had been made:

- (a) Extra categories were added to the ICD to allow coding of absence of limbs or organs, smoker's cough, unspecified difficulty with eyesight and varieties of nervous tension.
- (b) All complaints associated with delivery, miscarriage or abortions were combined into one category.

Tabulation of recent illness

18. Because the survey involved self-reporting, a large number of descriptions of illnesses obtained were only in terms of symptoms. The ICD is essentially a classification of defined diseases organised into specialised Chapters, with symptoms and illdefined conditions grouped separately. To make the presentation of illnesses in tabulations more meaningful, some reordering of the ICD was done to place symptoms referable to a particular body system with the defined diseases of that system.

Sample design

19. Households were randomly selected for inclusion in the survey, using a stratified multi-stage area sample design. Approximately 15,000 dwellings were selected for inclusion in the survey.

Estimation procedure

20. The estimates given in this publication were derived by use of a ratio estimation procedure based on the age/sex characteristics and distribution of the population of Australia. Population benchmarks for the Australian Health Survey were derived from an average of the four mid-quarterly population estimates for 1977-78 adjusted for the scope of the survey (see paragraph 4).

Reliability of the estimates

21. Since the estimates are based on a sample they are subject to sampling variability (see Technical note, page 37 for further details). Some figures in this publication are replaced or preceded by the symbol *. Estimates preceded by this symbol have a standard error of between 25 and 50 per cent and care should be exercised in using them because they are subject to such high errors. Estimates which are replaced with this symbol have a standard error greater than 50 per cent.

22. In addition to the sampling errors, the survey results are subject to non-sampling errors: i.e. those inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers or respondents, processing errors, and non-response. Such errors may occur in any statistical collection, whether it be a full census count or a sample survey. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors in the survey to a minimum by careful design and testing of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

Interpretation of results

23. The following factors should be considered in interpreting the results in this publication:

- (a) Information provided on self-perceived ill health was not medically verified. Reported illnesses were therefore not necessarily based on diagnoses by medical practitioners.
- (b) Because of the methodology employed, all persons who reported experience of a complaint, no matter how minor, in the two weeks prior to interview were considered to have a recent illness. Thus, persons who experienced minor complaints and who may not have considered themselves to have been ill, are still included.
- (c) The effects of illness on respondents may have influenced their reporting. For instance, illnesses which have a considerable effect on people are likely to be better reported than those which have little effect; some people may be unaware of their illnesses, particularly if they have not yet been diagnosed; it is also likely that there would be under-reporting of illnesses which have symptoms to which a person has adjusted; and, there may have been reluctance by some respondents to talk about their illnesses in an interview situation.
- (d) The exclusion from the survey of people currently in hospitals, nursing homes and other health institutions should be borne in mind when assessing the significance of results.
- (e) In tables dealing with total numbers of recent illnesses, persons with more than one recent illness are shown as many times as their reported number of illnesses, i.e. up to a maximum of five times.

Comparison with previous publications

24. Tables in this publication show recent illness grouped so that symptoms and illdefined conditions referring to a particular body system are included with, or shown alongside, diseases of that system (see paragraph 18). Appendix 1 shows tables with recent illness grouped according to the Chapters of the International Classification of Diseases, so that comparison can be made with previous publications

from this survey and other publications based on the ICD. Some revisions have been made to previously published estimates.

Related publications

25. Other ABS publications from the 1977-78 Australian Health Survey are:

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78, Information Paper (4340.0)

Australian Health Survey Bulletin No. 1., September 1977 (Preliminary) (4309.0)

Australian Health Survey Bulletin No. 2., December 1977 (Preliminary) (4310.0)

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78 (4311.0) – summary of results

Accidents, Australian Health Survey, 1977-78 (4313.0)

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78, Chronic conditions (illnesses and permanent disabilities) (4314.0)

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78, Sabin and Triple Antigen Vaccination (persons aged 2 to 5 years) (4316.0)

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78, Episodes (admissions and discharges) in Hospitals (4317.0)

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78, Doctor Consultations (4319.0)

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78, Days of Reduced Activity due to Illness or Injury (4321.0)

Australian Health Survey, 1977-78, Consultations with Health Professionals (Excluding Doctors and Dentists) (4322.0)

26. Also to be released from the 1977-78 Australian Health Survey is a publication on the concepts, methodology and procedures used.

27. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

Hearing and the Use of Hearing Aids (persons aged 15 years or more), September 1978 (4336.0)

Sight, Hearing and Dental Health (persons aged 2 to 14 years), February – May 1979 (4337.0)

Sight Problems and the Use of Glasses/Contact Lenses (persons aged 15 years or more), February–May 1979 (4338.0)

Dental Health (persons aged 15 years or more), February–May 1979 (4339.0)

Alcohol and Tobacco Consumption Patterns, February 1977 (4312.0).

Causes of Death, Australia, 1978 (3303.0)

Chronic Illnesses, Injuries and Impairments, May 1974 (4305.0)

28. Related publications issued by ABS State Offices are:

New South Wales –

Health Care Surveys in Gosford-Wyong and Illawarra Areas of N.S.W. 1975 (4305.1)

Queensland –

Patients Treated in Hospitals, 1978 (4303.3)

Western Australia –

Hospital In-patients Statistics, 1978 (4301.5)

Tasmania –

Hospital Morbidity, 1978 (4301.6)

29. Related publications produced by the Health Commission of New South Wales are:

Health Care Survey of Gosford-Wyong and Illawarra 1975, Division of Health Services Report No. 77/9.

Hospital Inpatient Statistics, New South Wales 1977, Division of Health Services Report No. 79/13

30. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

.. not applicable

* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. See paragraph 21.

31. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published rates are calculated prior to rounding of figures and therefore some discrepancy may exist between these rates and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

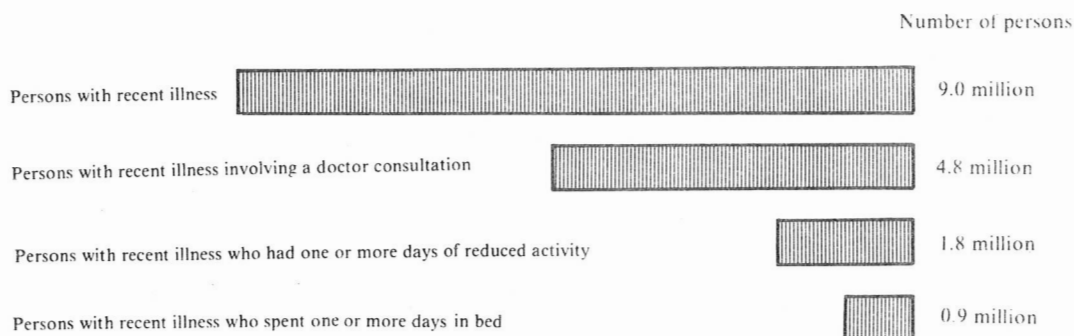
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS

Approximately 65 per cent (9.0 million) of the Australian population reported experiencing at least one illness (i.e. illness, injury or other health problem that caused any symptom of illhealth) in the two weeks prior to interview. These illnesses ranged from minor ailments such as the common cold or temporary stress to more serious illnesses such as heart disease.

About half (4.8 million) of those persons with a recent illness had, at some stage, consulted a doctor about the illness they had recently experienced. However only 1.8 million persons reported any reduction of activity in the two weeks before interview as a result of recent illness, and of these less than 1 million had spent one or more days in bed.

NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS (a)

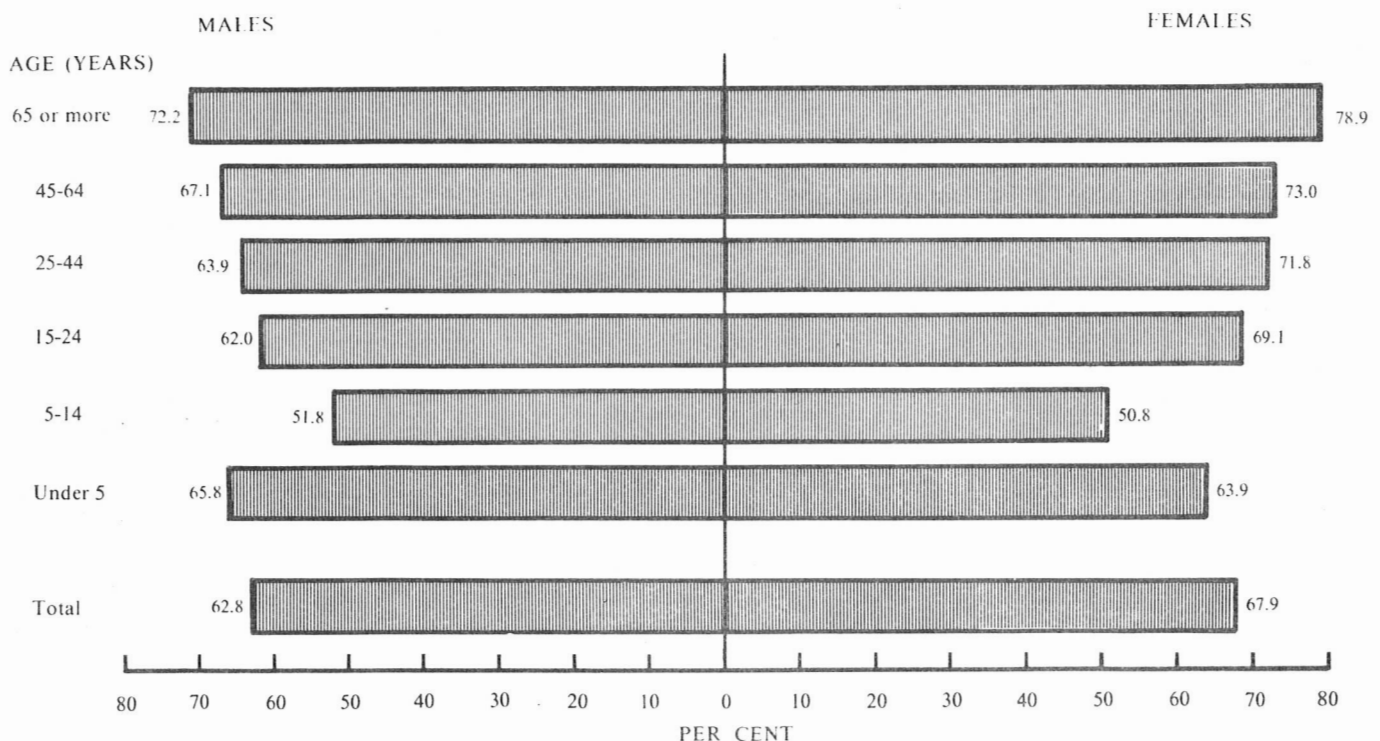


(a) Includes persons with illness, injury or other health problem that caused some symptom of ill health in the two weeks prior to interview.

Age and sex distribution of persons who reported recent illness.

With the exception of children under 5 years of age, the proportion of the population who reported recent illness tended to increase with age. Differences between percentages of males and females reporting recent illness were small. However, for those age groups 15 years and above, females generally had higher percentages than males and in the younger age groups males had higher percentages than females.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION WITH RECENT ILLNESS BY AGE BY SEX

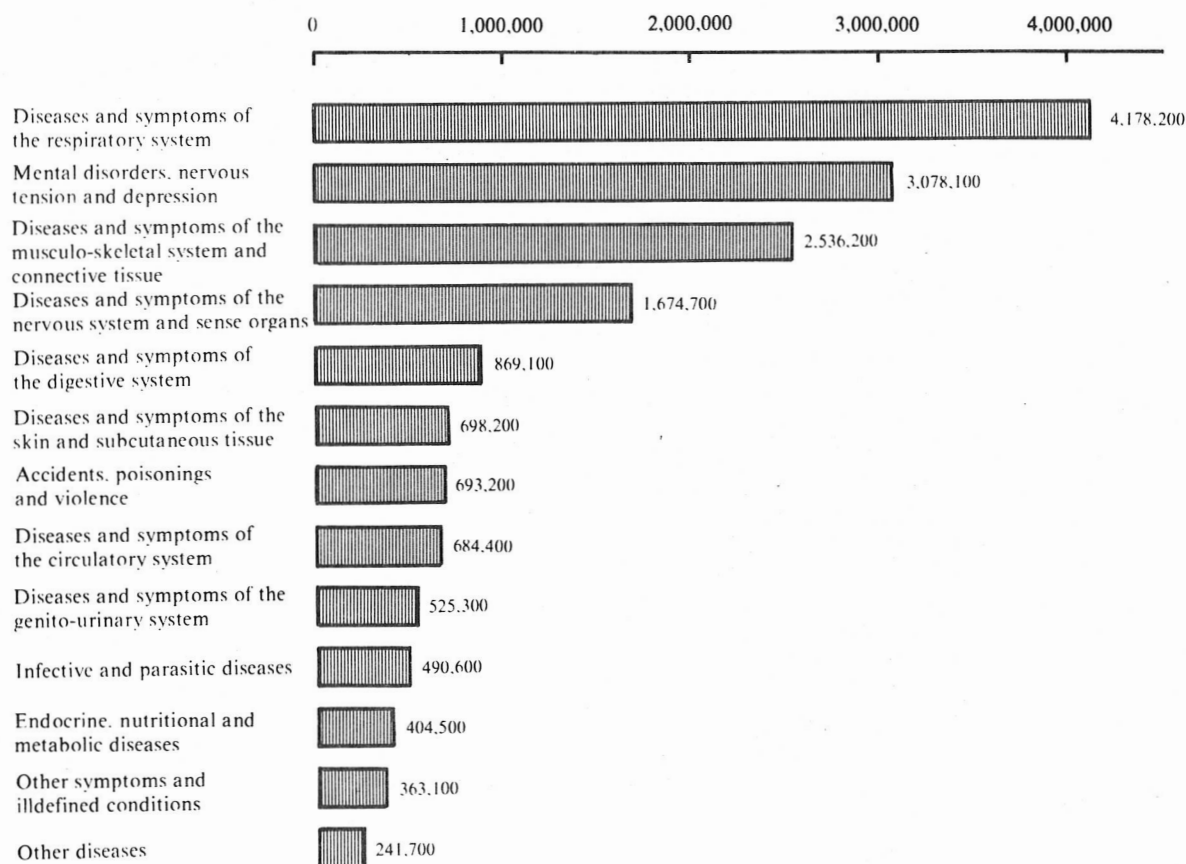


NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES

The total number of recent illnesses (i.e. illnesses, injuries or other health problems that caused any symptoms of illhealth) reported to have been experienced in the last two weeks was about 16 million. This corresponds to an average of about 18 illnesses for every 10 persons who reported having a recent illness.

Shown below is the number of recent illnesses reported in each group of illnesses. The group of recent illnesses most frequently reported to have been experienced in the two weeks before interview was Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system, with 4,178,200 illnesses reported. Other recent illness groups that strongly featured were Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression (3,078,100 illnesses reported); Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue (2,536,200 illnesses reported); and Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs (1,674,700 illnesses reported). These four most frequently reported groups of recent illness are discussed in more detail on page 10 of this summary.

NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) REPORTED IN EACH ILLNESS GROUP



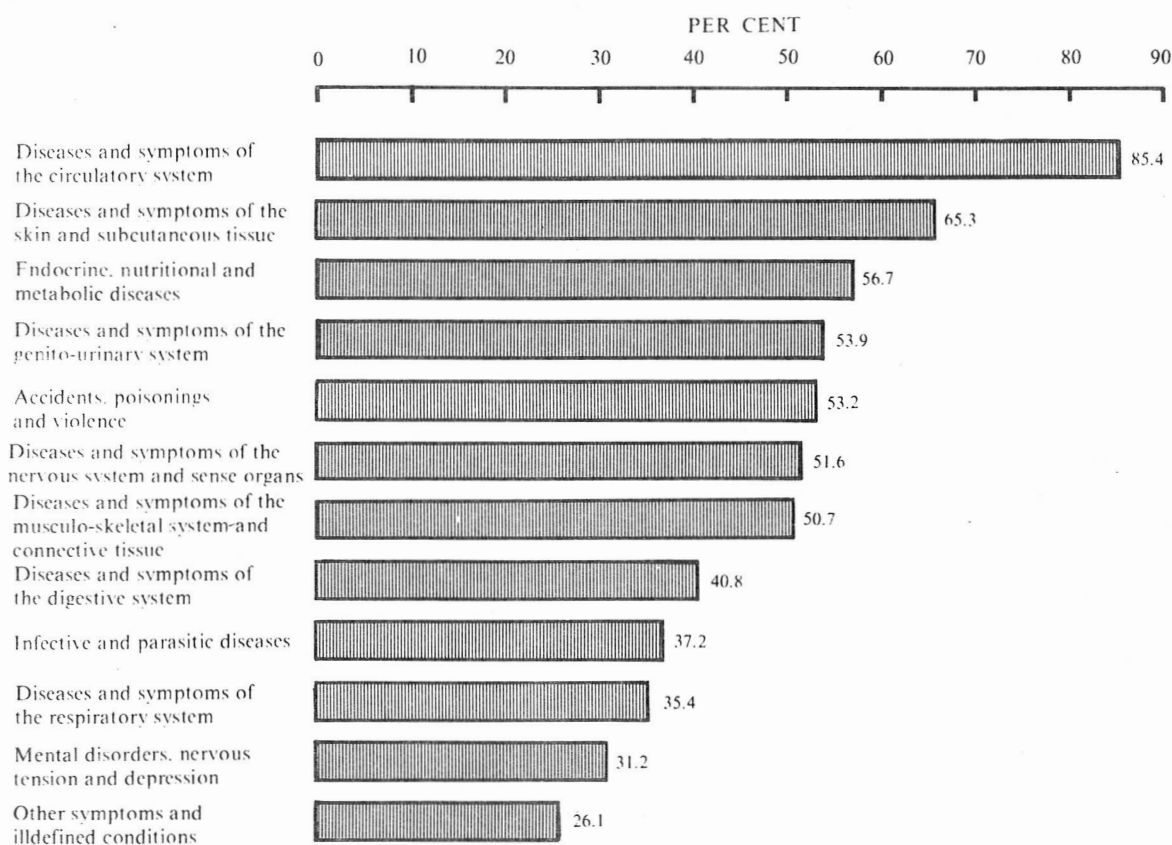
(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 illnesses per person.

DOCTOR CONSULTATION

A doctor was at some time consulted in relation to about 45 per cent of reported recent illnesses. The chart below shows the percentage of illnesses, in broad groups, which involved a doctor consultation.

The illness group with the highest proportion of illnesses involving a doctor consultation was Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system, where a doctor was consulted in 85.4 per cent of cases. A doctor consultation was involved in 65.3 per cent of Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue and 56.7 per cent of Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases.

PROPORTION OF ILLNESSES IN EACH GROUP FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED (a)



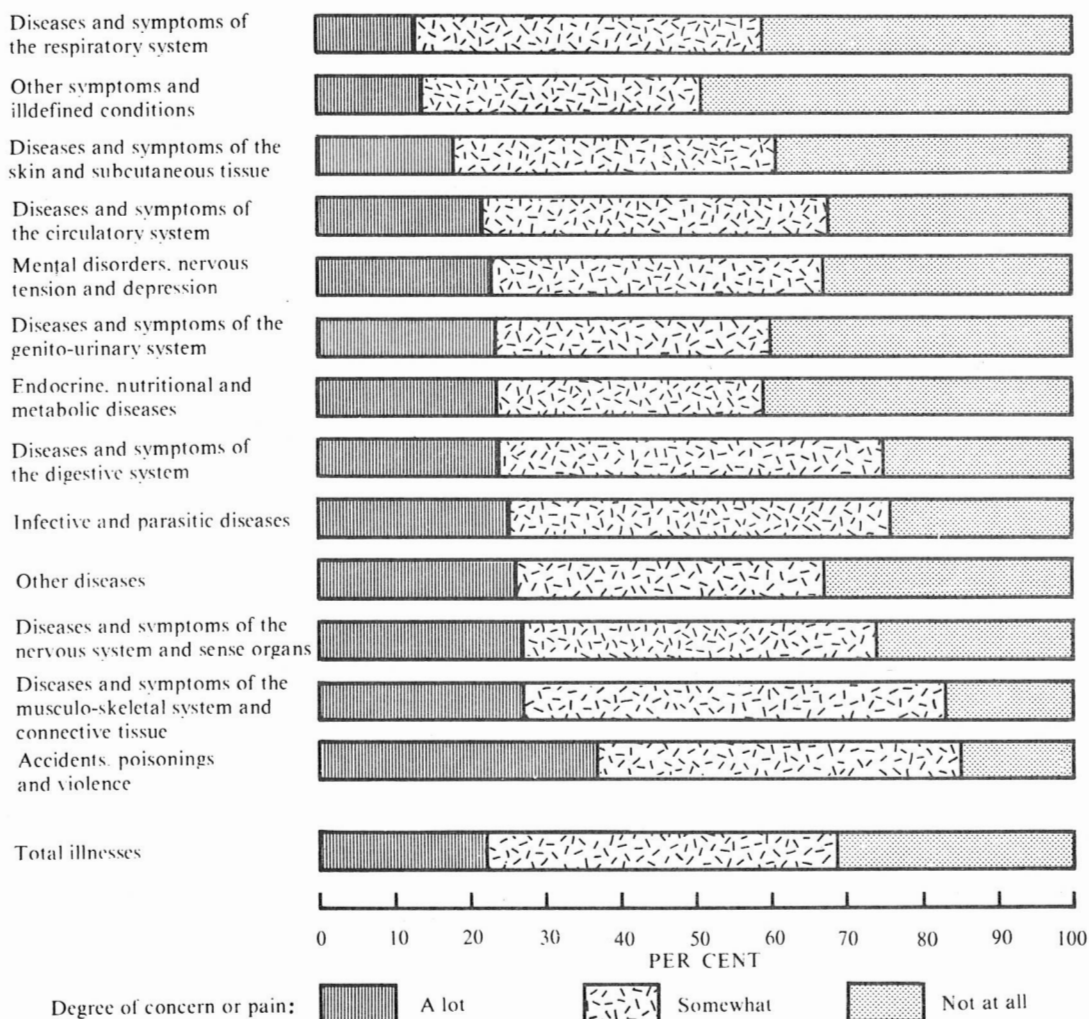
(a) Number of recent illnesses for which a doctor was consulted either in the two weeks before interview or previously, or for which arrangements for consultation had been made.

Note: Proportion of illnesses for which a doctor was consulted is not shown for the illness group Other diseases.

DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN

Persons were asked in relation to each reported recent illness, whether their illness had concerned or pained them 'A lot', 'Somewhat' or 'Not at all' in the two weeks prior to interview. The following chart illustrates the proportions of replies in each illness group.

DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN REPORTED FOR EACH GROUP OF ILLNESSES



The highest proportion (37.6 per cent) of persons who reported being concerned or pained 'A lot' were those with illness or injury due to Accidents, poisonings and violence.

Illness groups with high proportions of persons who were 'Not at all' concerned or pained by their illnesses were Endocrine, metabolic and nutritional disorders (40.9 per cent), Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system (40.7 per cent) and Other symptoms and illdefined conditions (48.9 per cent).

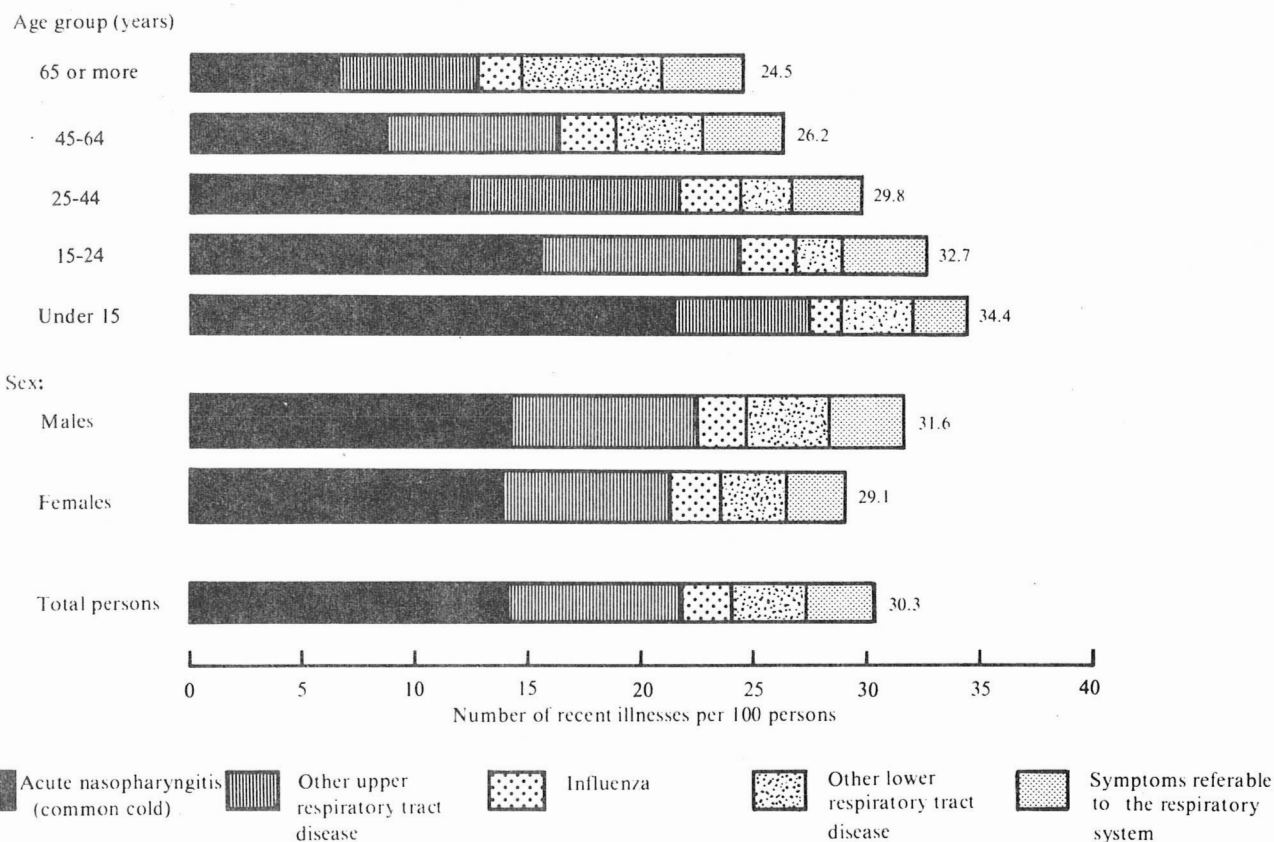
FREQUENTLY REPORTED RECENT ILLNESS GROUPS

The four most frequently reported groups of recent illness are discussed in more detail below. The incidence of the main types of illness reported within each group are shown diagrammatically both by age and by sex.

Incidence of diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system

The incidence of Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system tends to decrease with age. There were 34 recent illnesses reported for every 100 persons in the under 15 age group whereas only 24 recent illnesses were reported for every 100 persons aged 65 years or more.

INCIDENCE OF DISEASES AND SYMPTOMS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM : AGE AND SEX

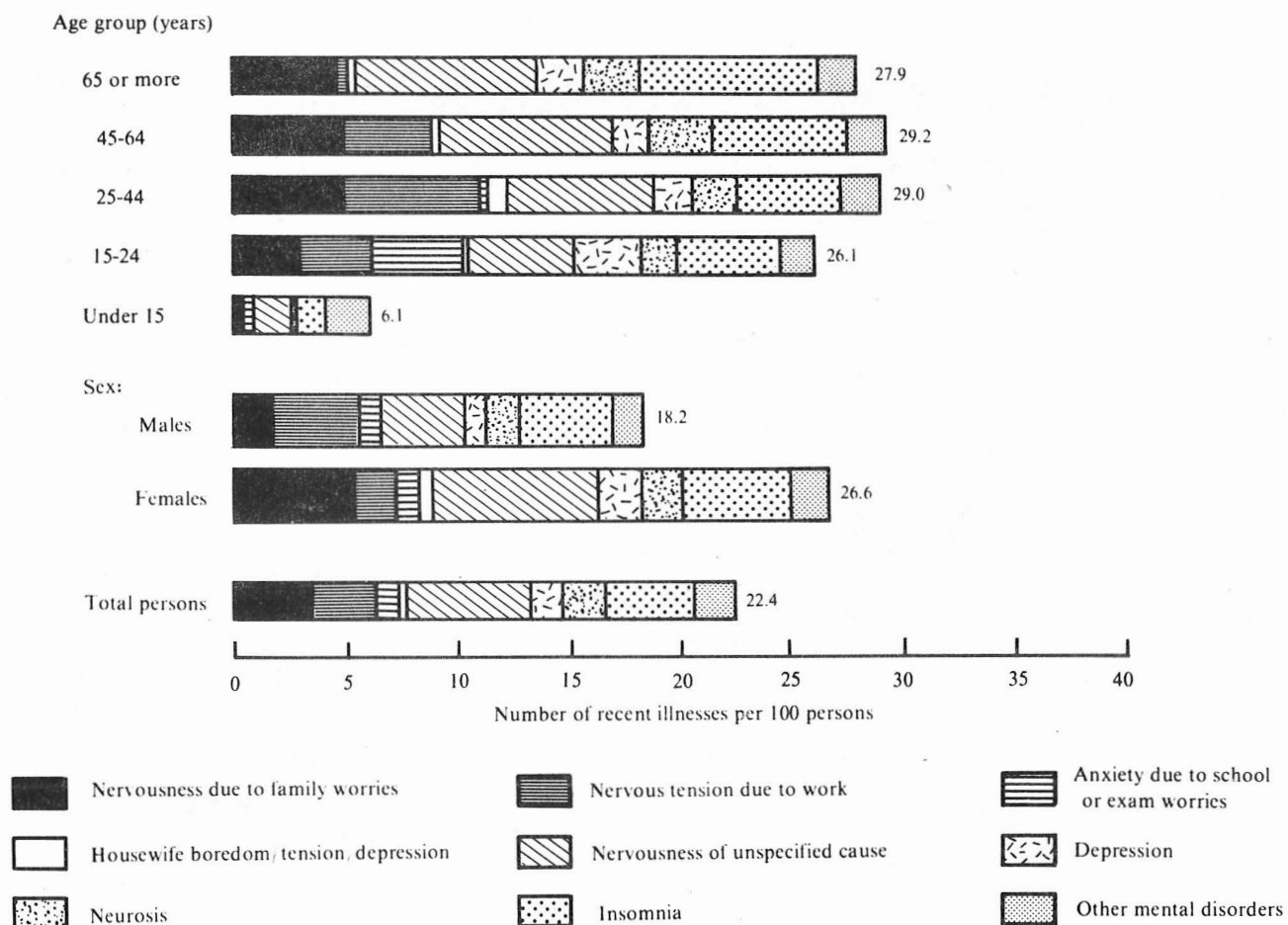


A slightly higher proportion of males reported respiratory disease than females. The most frequently reported recent illness in this group was acute nasopharyngitis (common cold) which was reported by 14 per cent of the population. This was also the most frequently reported single recent illness overall. From the above chart it appears that the incidence of acute nasopharyngitis tends to decrease with age: 21.4 per cent of persons under 15 years of age reported this particular recent illness compared with only 6.4 per cent in the 65 years or more age group.

Incidence of mental disorders, nervous tension and depression

With the exception of the under 15 age group the incidence of this group of recent illnesses does not vary greatly between age groups. However, there was a substantially higher incidence of these conditions reported by females than by males.

INCIDENCE OF MENTAL DISORDERS, NERVOUS TENSION AND DEPRESSION : AGE AND SEX



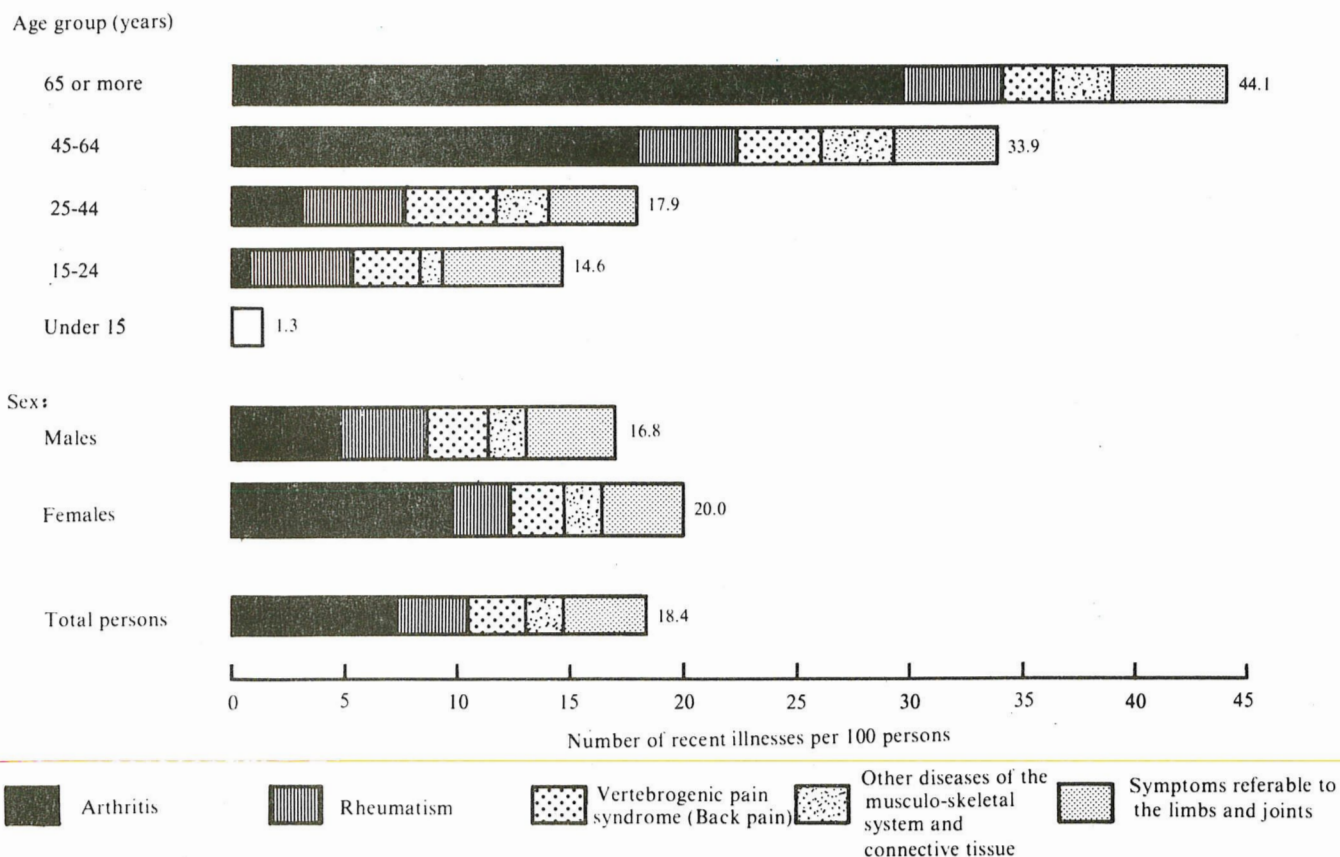
The reported causes of nervous tension tended to reflect the varying activities of the sexes and of the age groups. For instance, the incidence of Nervous tension due to work is higher for males than for females (4 illnesses per 100 males and 2 illnesses per 100 females) whereas the incidence of Nervousness due to family worries is higher for females (5 illnesses per 100 females and 2 illnesses per 100 males). The incidence of Anxiety due to school or exam worries was highest in the 15 to 24 age group (4 illnesses per 100 persons) while Nervous tension due to work was highest in the 25 to 44 year age group (6 illnesses per 100 persons) and also high in the 15 to 24 and 45 to 64 year age groups (3 illnesses and 4 illnesses per 100 persons respectively).

The incidence of insomnia (trouble sleeping) tended to increase with age and was reported by 8 per cent of persons aged 65 years or more.

Incidence of diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue

The reported incidence of Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue increased markedly with age. Only one illness was reported per 100 persons under 15 years of age. However, in the 65 years or more age group, 44 illnesses were reported per 100 persons.

INCIDENCE OF DISEASES AND SYMPTOMS OF THE MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM AND CONNECTIVE TISSUE : AGE AND SEX



(a) Comprises all categories within this illness group.

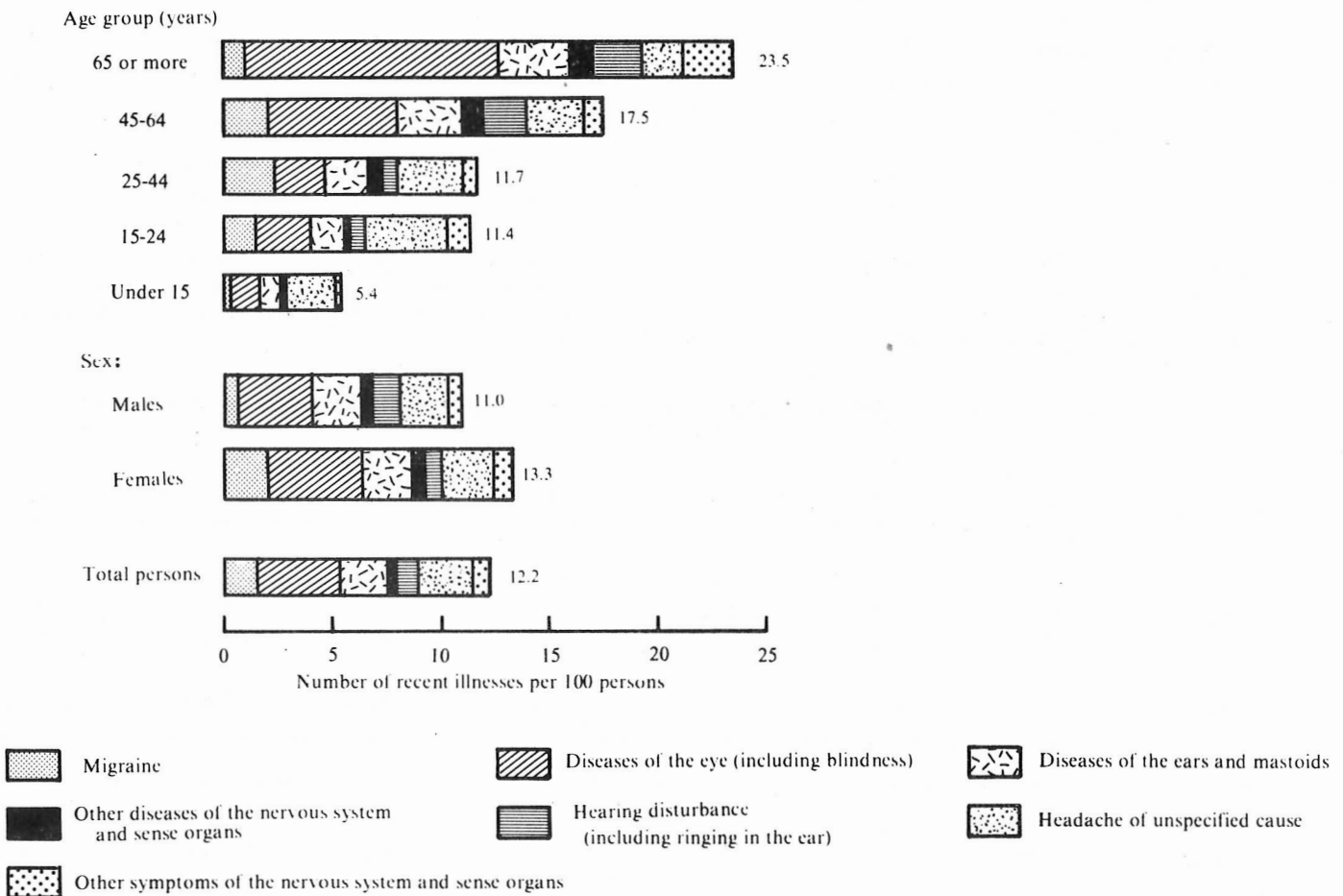
Arthritis, reported by 30 per cent of persons aged 65 years or more, was the most frequently reported recent illness in this age group. A far higher proportion of women reported arthritis than men.

Incidence of diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs

The reported incidence of this group of illnesses tends to increase with age: 5 illnesses were reported per 100 persons aged under 15 years, whereas 24 illnesses were reported per 100 persons aged 65 years or more. This increase was mainly due to the increase with age of the incidence of Diseases of the eye (including blindness) which increased from 1 illness per 100 persons aged under 15 years to 12 illnesses per 100 persons aged 65 years or more.

A higher proportion of women reported recent illnesses from this illness group than men.

INCIDENCE OF DISEASES AND SYMPTOMS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SENSE ORGANS : AGE AND SEX



AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY, 1977-78

SECTION 1 : PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS

TABLE 1. PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS (a) : AGE BY SEX

	<i>Age Group (years)</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>Under 5</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-44</i>	<i>45-64</i>	<i>65 or more</i>	
	('000)						
Males	392.8	667.9	733.8	1,240.0	922.9	378.4	4,335.7
Females	361.9	618.9	799.4	1,336.5	991.4	552.3	4,660.4
Persons	754.7	1,286.7	1,533.2	2,576.4	1,914.3	930.7	8,996.0
	RATE (b)						
Males	658.1	518.4	619.8	639.2	671.2	721.8	627.6
Females	638.6	507.6	691.1	718.2	729.6	788.5	679.1
Persons	648.6	513.1	655.0	677.8	700.2	760.0	653.2

(a) Illness, injury or other health problem which caused some complaint or symptom of illhealth in the two weeks prior to interview (see Explanatory Notes). (b) Rate per 1,000 population in each age and sex group.

TABLE 2. PERSONS WHO CONSULTED A DOCTOR (a) ABOUT THEIR RECENT ILLNESS (b) : AGE BY SEX

	<i>Age Group (years)</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>Under 5</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-44</i>	<i>45-64</i>	<i>65 or more</i>	
	('000)						
Males	175.0	314.0	235.2	494.2	559.2	301.6	2,079.3
Females	171.7	281.5	346.6	736.5	683.5	454.4	2,674.1
Persons	346.7	595.6	581.8	1,230.7	1,242.6	756.0	4,753.4
	RATE (c)						
Males	293.2	243.8	198.7	254.8	406.6	575.3	301.0
Females	302.9	230.9	299.6	395.8	503.0	648.8	389.6
Persons	297.9	237.5	248.6	323.8	454.5	617.3	345.2

(a) Persons who, in relation to one or more of their recent illnesses, had consulted a doctor in the two weeks before interview, had consulted a doctor previously, or had made arrangements to consult a doctor. (b) Illness, injury or other health problem which caused some complaint or symptom of illhealth in the two weeks prior to interview (see Explanatory Notes). (c) Rate per 1,000 population in each age and sex group.

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY, 1977-78

TABLE 3. PERSONS : NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) BY AGE BY SEX ('000)

	Age group (years)						
	Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Total
MALES							
Number of recent illnesses :							
1	257.2	479.8	409.9	671.8	420.3	133.6	2,372.6
2	106.8	148.9	200.3	341.1	234.8	112.6	1,144.4
3	19.5	30.9	74.3	140.3	136.6	70.6	472.1
4	9.0	*6.5	32.3	60.2	79.8	34.7	222.6
5 or more	*	*	17.0	26.5	51.4	26.9	124.0
Males with one or more recent illnesses	392.8	667.9	733.8	1,240.0	922.9	378.4	4,335.7
Males with no recent illness	204.1	620.5	450.2	700.0	452.1	145.8	2,572.7
Total males	596.9	1,288.4	1,183.9	1,939.8	1,375.1	524.2	6,908.3
FEMALES							
Number of recent illnesses :							
1	249.6	457.0	390.9	647.2	378.9	178.0	2,301.7
2	88.8	124.7	227.5	379.3	282.6	144.8	1,247.8
3	17.2	30.3	107.8	186.2	164.9	105.8	612.3
4	*5.1	*5.2	46.1	78.1	78.9	64.4	277.8
5 or more	*	*	27.1	45.7	86.1	59.2	220.8
Females with one or more recent illnesses	361.9	618.9	799.4	1,336.5	991.4	552.3	4,660.4
Females with no recent illness	204.9	600.5	357.3	524.5	367.4	148.1	2,202.7
Total females	566.8	1,219.4	1,156.7	1,861.0	1,358.8	700.4	6,863.1
PERSONS							
Number of recent illnesses :							
1	506.8	936.8	800.8	1,319.0	799.3	311.6	4,674.3
2	195.6	273.7	427.8	720.4	517.4	257.4	2,392.2
3	36.8	61.2	182.1	326.4	301.5	176.4	1,084.4
4	14.1	11.8	78.4	138.3	158.7	99.1	500.4
5 or more	*	*3.3	44.1	72.2	137.5	86.1	344.8
Persons with one or more recent illnesses	754.7	1,286.7	1,533.2	2,576.4	1,914.3	930.7	8,996.0
Persons with no recent illness	408.9	1,221.0	807.5	1,224.5	819.5	293.9	4,775.3
Total persons	1,163.7	2,507.7	2,340.7	3,800.8	2,733.9	1,224.6	13,771.4

(a) Illness, injury or other health problem which caused some complaint or symptom of illhealth in the two weeks prior to interview (see Explanatory Notes).

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TABLE 4. PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS (a) WHO REDUCED ACTIVITY IN THE TWO WEEKS BEFORE INTERVIEW BECAUSE OF ILLNESS OR INJURY : NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES BY AGE ('000)

Number of recent illnesses	Age group (years) (b)						Total
	2-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	
PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS WHO SPENT ONE OR MORE DAYS IN BED							
1	23.5	127.8	72.3	84.9	56.6	14.7	379.8
2	*6.5	49.9	47.0	71.6	46.3	19.4	240.7
3	*2.8	12.3	20.9	29.4	25.8	23.2	114.3
4	*	*	*8.7	17.6	20.0	13.6	62.2
5 or more	*	*	*8.4	13.5	23.8	17.6	64.7
Persons with one or more illnesses who spent days in bed	34.2	192.3	157.3	217.0	172.4	88.5	861.7
PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS WHO HAD ONE OR MORE DAYS OF REDUCED ACTIVITY (c)							
1	54.0	229.3	140.1	198.5	117.3	46.4	785.7
2	24.8	92.1	86.5	143.9	98.8	42.5	488.7
3	*5.6	20.9	44.6	74.2	67.3	44.8	257.4
4	*3.9	*3.0	26.3	51.0	44.5	26.7	155.4
5 or more	*	*2.6	21.9	28.8	52.2	32.9	139.1
Persons with one or more illnesses who reduced activity	89.0	347.9	319.5	496.4	380.1	193.3	1,826.2

(a) Illness, injury or other health problem which caused some complaint or symptom of illhealth in the two weeks prior to interview (see Explanatory Notes). (b) Details of reduced activity were not obtained for persons under 2 years of age. (c) Includes those persons who spent one or more days in bed.

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF DAYS OF REDUCED ACTIVITY IN THE TWO WEEKS BEFORE INTERVIEW BY PERSONS WITH RECENT ILLNESS (a) : NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES BY AGE ('000)

Number of recent illnesses	Age group (years) (b)						Total
	2-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	
DAYS IN BED							
1	64.7	311.4	180.9	233.6	230.4	76.0	1,096.9
2	*12.3	111.8	98.8	163.0	200.3	102.4	688.6
3	*	*31.9	39.2	66.5	92.5	139.7	378.3
4 *	*	*	*15.1	*57.8	*68.1	*58.9	205.6
5 or more	*	*	*24.8	*35.2	87.1	*86.5	234.9
Total days in bed	87.9	459.9	358.8	556.0	678.3	463.5	2,604.3
DAYS OF REDUCED ACTIVITY (c)							
1	202.8	858.2	600.2	1,036.8	850.6	398.6	3,947.0
2	67.7	365.3	409.6	754.6	636.5	402.8	2,636.5
3	*18.8	86.8	154.9	368.5	440.1	345.4	1,414.5
4	*	*	89.4	341.1	298.4	214.3	982.4
5 or more	*	*	93.0	172.7	397.2	294.6	964.1
Total days of reduced activity	308.6	1,336.6	1,347.1	2,673.8	2,622.9	1,655.6	9,944.5

(a) Illness, injury or other health problem which caused some complaint or symptom of illhealth in the two weeks prior to interview (see Explanatory Notes). (b) Details of reduced activity were not obtained for persons under 2 years of age. (c) Includes those days spent in bed.

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TABLE 6. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE WITH RECENT ILLNESS (a) : SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

Country of birth	Age group (years)			Total aged 15 years or more		
	15-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons
U.K., Eire	410.3	179.0	132.7	351.3	370.7	722.1
Other English-speaking	59.9	15.9	*5.5	36.0	45.3	81.3
Italy	115.7	75.8	14.4	103.5	102.4	205.9
Yugoslavia	57.5	18.2	*6.4	36.7	45.3	82.1
Greece	59.2	19.8	9.1	43.7	44.4	88.1
Other European	181.3	124.5	33.7	171.5	168.0	339.4
Other	110.7	35.6	16.0	78.4	84.0	162.4
<i>Total overseas born</i>	<i>994.5</i>	<i>468.8</i>	<i>217.8</i>	<i>821.1</i>	<i>860.1</i>	<i>1,681.2</i>
Australian born	3,114.9	1,445.5	712.9	2,453.9	2,819.5	5,273.4
Total persons	4,109.5	1,914.3	930.7	3,274.9	3,679.6	6,954.5

(a) Illness, injury or other health problem which caused some complaint or symptom of illhealth in the two weeks prior to interview (see Explanatory Notes).

TABLE 7. PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE WITH RECENT ILLNESS (a) : SELECTED COUNTRIES OF BIRTH BY AGE AND SEX PERCENT (b)

Country of birth	Age group (years)			Total aged 15 years or more		
	15-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons
U.K., Eire	71.6	65.7	74.4	65.7	75.8	70.5
Other English-speaking	58.2	56.1	*45.6	47.8	66.5	56.7
Italy	70.2	67.0	57.7	61.9	77.5	68.0
Yugoslavia	58.5	73.8	*	54.6	73.2	63.5
Greece	65.7	72.1	*	64.5	75.0	69.4
Other European	66.9	70.0	71.7	63.7	74.1	68.5
Other	60.1	64.9	80.2	58.9	66.7	62.7
<i>Total overseas born</i>	<i>67.0</i>	<i>67.1</i>	<i>73.0</i>	<i>62.4</i>	<i>73.7</i>	<i>67.8</i>
Australian born	66.9	71.0	77.0	66.2	72.1	69.2
All persons with recent illness	66.9	70.0	76.0	65.2	72.5	68.9

(a) Illness, injury or other health problem which caused some complaint or symptom of illhealth in the two weeks prior to interview (see Explanatory Notes). (b) Determined by dividing the estimates shown in Table 6 by the respective population estimates shown in Table 27.

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SECTION 2 : NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES

TABLE 8. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

International code number	Illness group (b)	Age group (years)						Total		
		Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	66.2	96.8	97.9	138.8	68.2	22.6	219.5	271.1	490.6
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	*3.9	18.8	44.5	136.3	148.7	52.3	143.1	261.4	404.5
290-315	Mental disorders, nervous									
790.0,790.2	tension and depression	64.2	160.6	610.6	1,102.8	798.6	341.3	1,255.4	1,822.7	3,078.1
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the									
780,781,791	nervous system and sense organs	42.2	157.6	265.9	444.3	477.2	287.4	760.3	914.3	1,674.7
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	*	*3.8	18.8	94.4	291.8	274.0	279.6	404.9	684.4
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	463.2	800.7	764.8	1,132.8	716.1	300.6	2,182.0	1,996.2	4,178.2
520-577	Diseases and symptoms of the									
784,785	digestive system	176.0	103.3	136.1	203.9	159.9	89.9	425.1	444.0	869.1
580-629	Diseases and symptoms of the									
786,792	genito-urinary system	100.9	127.6	46.9	96.2	91.5	62.3	190.6	334.7	525.3
680-709	Diseases and symptoms of the									
788.2	skin and subcutaneous tissue	111.2	105.0	125.6	173.6	126.0	56.9	353.3	344.9	698.2
710-738	Diseases and symptoms of the									
787	musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	*3.4	42.8	342.2	681.0	927.3	539.4	1,162.1	1,374.1	2,536.2
(c)	Other diseases	*2.9	*7.1	58.8	102.5	43.1	27.4	55.0	186.8	241.7
(d)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	*8.2	14.0	59.8	119.7	93.7	67.7	148.5	214.7	363.1
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence	28.1	93.3	164.9	227.1	118.7	61.1	413.4	279.8	693.2
Total recent illnesses		1,072.2	1,731.5	2,736.6	4,653.3	4,060.8	2,182.9	7,587.9	8,849.4	16,437.3

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs or organs. (d) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-790.1, 793-796.

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TABLE 9. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED (b) : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

International code number	Illness group (c)	Age group (years)						Total		
		Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	27.8	34.2	31.6	40.6	31.1	17.2	76.1	106.4	182.4
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	*3.1	9.3	17.9	63.7	92.0	43.2	80.2	149.0	229.2
290-315	Mental disorders, nervous									
790.0,790.2	tension and depression	25.2	57.9	78.3	271.9	332.7	189.8	309.4	646.5	956.0
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the									
780,781,791	nervous system and sense organs	33.6	95.3	92.8	207.6	233.2	200.8	362.9	500.5	863.4
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	*	*3.6	11.8	63.2	249.2	255.2	253.8	330.6	584.4
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	183.4	289.4	190.7	359.1	277.3	180.0	722.9	757.0	1,480.0
520-577	Diseases and symptoms of the									
784,785	digestive system	46.0	29.7	31.8	86.5	92.3	67.9	178.7	175.5	354.2
580-629	Diseases and symptoms of the									
786,792	genito-urinary system	21.6	59.6	28.1	62.6	61.9	49.4	89.9	193.4	283.2
680-709	Diseases and symptoms of the									
788.2	skin and subcutaneous tissue	67.5	69.1	73.9	109.2	89.4	46.5	214.2	241.5	455.6
710-738	Diseases and symptoms of the									
787	musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	*	18.6	71.1	264.1	538.4	394.0	502.9	784.1	1,287.0
(d)	Other diseases	*2.9	*6.7	47.4	82.2	37.1	25.2	45.1	156.4	201.5
(e)	Other symptoms and									
	ill-defined conditions	*2.7	*3.7	*6.5	27.3	21.6	33.0	31.8	63.0	94.8
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence	14.6	38.5	68.4	127.6	74.8	44.4	208.3	159.9	368.2
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was consulted		430.7	715.4	750.4	1,765.7	2,131.1	1,546.6	3,076.1	4,263.8	7,339.8

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Number of recent illnesses for which a doctor was consulted either in the two weeks before interview or previously, or for which arrangements for consultation had been made. (c) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (d) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs or organs. (e) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-790.1, 793-796.

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TABLE 10. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY WHEN DOCTOR CONSULTED ('000)

International code number	Illness group (b)	Doctor consulted in last two weeks	Doctor consulted previously	Appointment made	Total illnesses for which a doctor was consulted
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	122.9	52.6	*7.0	182.4
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	71.7	146.0	11.5	229.2
290-315					
790.0, 790.2	Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	321.9	596.1	37.9	956.0
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	299.5	486.3	77.6	863.4
780, 781, 791					
390-458, 782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	239.7	323.6	21.1	584.4
460-519, 783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	812.1	624.7	43.2	1,480.0
520-577					
784, 785	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	172.9	160.4	21.0	354.2
580-629					
786, 792	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	112.4	153.9	16.9	283.2
680-709	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	142.5	289.8	23.3	455.6
788.2					
710-738	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	384.6	850.9	51.5	1,287.0
787					
(c)	Other diseases	117.7	77.5	*6.3	201.5
(d)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	42.7	48.1	*4.0	94.8
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence	235.5	117.4	15.2	368.2
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was consulted		3,076.1	3,927.2	336.5	7,339.8

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs or organs. (d) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-790.1, 793-796.

TABLE 11. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS NOT CONSULTED : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY MAIN REASON FOR NON-CONSULTATION ('000)

International code number	Illness group (b)	Reason for non-consultation							Total illnesses for which a doctor was not consulted (c)
		Not serious enough	Doctors cannot help this illness	Doctors 'useless'	Personal fears	No time	Too costly/bad transport	Other reasons	
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	230.6	16.7	*3.5	*	*7.6	*2.7	44.9	308.1
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	87.6	49.0	*5.1	*3.3	*3.5	*	25.9	175.3
290-315									
790.0, 790.2	Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	1,100.2	660.9	36.1	37.9	52.0	16.2	218.7	2,122.1
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	448.8	134.3	10.0	12.2	66.3	19.4	120.2	811.3
780, 781, 791									
390-458, 782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	49.9	18.3	*	*6.4	*6.6	*3.2	13.8	100.1
460-519, 783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	2,157.9	193.7	51.5	25.3	58.2	33.4	177.1	2,698.2
520-577	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	372.4	40.0	*7.2	*7.6	13.6	*3.5	70.6	514.9
784, 785									
580-629	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	145.3	48.0	*3.1	9.0	*3.6	*	33.2	242.1
786, 792									
680-709	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	160.9	29.2	*4.7	*2.2	8.9	*	35.1	242.6
788.2									
710-738	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	704.7	285.9	22.5	18.9	50.3	10.3	156.4	1,249.1
787									
(d)	Other diseases	13.1	9.2	*	*	*3.6	*	13.1	40.3
(e)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	179.4	46.1	*8.1	*	10.9	*	21.0	268.4
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence	214.1	35.5	*5.6	*	14.2	*	52.6	325.1
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was not consulted		5,864.7	1,566.9	159.8	128.2	299.4	94.4	982.5	9,097.4

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) Includes reason not stated. (d) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs or organs. (e) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 793-796.

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TABLE 12. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY ASSOCIATED DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN ('000)

International code number	Illness group (b)	Degree of concern or pain			Total (c)
		A lot	Somewhat	Not at all	
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	124.0	248.1	118.4	490.6
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	95.0	143.0	165.5	404.5
290-315	Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	701.2	1,352.7	1,019.6	3,078.1
790.0,790.2	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	448.1	782.3	437.8	1,674.7
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	148.4	315.6	218.9	684.4
780,781,791	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	543.3	1,928.8	1,702.1	4,178.2
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	208.9	442.8	215.9	869.1
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	122.3	193.8	208.1	525.3
520-577	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	124.7	301.6	270.6	698.2
784,785	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	683.3	1,414.1	432.2	2,536.2
580-629	Other diseases	62.3	100.6	78.7	241.7
786,792	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	50.2	135.2	177.6	363.1
680-709	Accidents, poisonings and violence	260.7	328.9	102.5	693.2
788.2					
710-738					
787					
(d)					
(e)					
N800-N999					
Total recent illnesses		3,572.4	7,687.6	5,148.0	16,437.3

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) Includes 29,200 illnesses for which the degree of concern or pain was not stated. (d) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs or organs. (e) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-790.1, 793-796.

TABLE 13. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY STATE AND TERRITORY ('000)

International code number	Illness group (b)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	165.2	169.5	53.3	28.1	48.7	15.0	3.2	7.5	490.6
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	178.8	73.1	67.5	27.9	38.5	10.8	2.1	5.7	404.5
290-315	Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	1,180.0	742.4	426.6	278.1	296.4	87.4	14.4	52.8	3,078.1
790.0,790.2	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	640.8	341.0	278.6	150.6	173.8	54.0	10.5	25.3	1,674.7
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	283.8	168.0	93.4	54.9	50.3	25.2	1.6	7.2	684.4
780,781,791	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	1,469.2	1,151.8	630.2	347.2	374.4	118.9	21.8	64.6	4,178.2
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	328.6	180.8	133.5	91.9	86.4	26.1	6.0	15.8	869.1
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	164.3	143.5	73.2	51.1	60.9	20.5	3.0	8.7	525.3
520-577	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	263.5	157.2	94.7	62.2	73.8	27.4	6.7	12.6	698.2
784,785	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	1,034.4	533.3	388.7	220.7	250.9	74.2	8.6	25.5	2,536.2
580-629	Other diseases	88.2	80.4	29.0	16.9	15.1	7.0	1.5	3.6	241.7
786,792	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	109.5	124.1	49.2	30.6	35.6	7.7	1.4	4.9	363.1
680-709	Accidents, poisonings and violence	219.6	223.3	82.2	63.5	60.0	22.6	5.1	16.9	693.2
788.2										
710-738										
787										
(c)										
(d)										
N800-N999										
Total recent illnesses		6,126.1	4,088.5	2,400.1	1,423.7	1,564.7	496.9	85.9	251.3	16,437.3

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs or organs. (d) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-790.1, 793-796.

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SECTION 3 : COMPLAINTS AND ILLNESSES REPORTED FOR PERSONS AGED UNDER 15 YEARS

TABLE 14. NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS REPORTED FOR PERSONS AGED UNDER 15 YEARS (a) : CATEGORY OF COMPLAINT BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

Category of complaint	Age group (years)		Total		
	0-4	5-14	Males	Females	Persons
Cold, sore throat, cough	463.3	709.3	600.1	572.5	1,172.6
Earache, draining ear	83.9	127.7	99.3	112.2	211.6
Fever, temperature	141.6	143.8	145.1	140.4	285.5
Bed wetting	105.7	130.8	139.5	97.0	236.5
Frequent or painful urination, kidney or bladder trouble	9.9	*7.3	*6.2	11.0	17.2
Joint pain or swelling	*2.7	46.0	27.9	20.9	48.8
Nervousness, worry or irritability	71.4	127.9	110.0	89.3	199.3
Noisy breathing or wheezing	104.7	164.9	157.9	111.7	269.6
Seriously overweight	*	14.5	*6.9	*7.7	14.7
Severe headache	11.0	126.9	70.2	67.7	137.9
Skin rash	146.6	106.8	138.4	114.9	253.4
Trouble sleeping	121.6	87.0	100.7	108.0	208.7
Unusual weakness	*3.9	16.4	12.3	*8.0	20.3
Upset stomach, vomiting or diarrhoea	130.7	184.1	156.7	158.1	314.8
Loss of appetite	124.6	77.7	106.6	95.7	202.3
Eye trouble (even with glasses)	20.6	38.3	29.9	29.0	58.9
Other complaints due to accident or injury	14.1	54.8	41.4	27.4	68.8
Other complaints	53.5	124.4	90.8	87.0	177.8
Total complaints	1,609.9	2,288.8	2,039.9	1,858.8	3,898.7

(a) Provision was made to record up to 18 complaints per person aged under 15 years. Estimates of the numbers of persons with one or more complaints correspond to the estimates of persons with recent illness, as shown in Tables 1 and 3.

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TABLE 15. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED FOR PERSONS AGED UNDER 15 YEARS (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS (DETAILED LIST) BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

International code number	Type of illness (b)	Age group (years)		Total		
		0-4	5-14	Males	Females	Persons
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	66.2	96.8	78.1	85.0	163.1
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	*3.9	18.8	12.6	10.1	22.7
277	Obesity, not specified as of endocrine origin	*	13.5	*6.5	*7.0	13.5
240-276						
278,279	Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	*3.9	*5.4	*6.1	*3.1	9.2
290-315						
790.0,790.2	Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	64.2	160.6	118.5	106.3	224.8
..	Anxiety due to exam/school worries	*	25.0	13.5	12.2	25.7
..	Nervousness due to family worries	*	10.4	*4.6	*7.3	12.0
790.0,790.2	Other nervousness/depression	10.4	49.2	31.4	28.2	59.7
290-315	Mental disorders	51.5	76.0	69.0	58.5	127.5
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	42.2	157.6	99.4	100.4	199.9
780,781,791	Migraine	*	10.8	*5.7	*5.4	11.1
346						
360-379	Diseases of the eye (including blindness)	19.1	35.5	25.2	29.5	54.7
380-389	Diseases of the ear and mastoids	20.1	73.3	42.8	50.6	93.4
320-345						
347-359	Other diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	*	*2.3	*	*	*2.4
791	Headache of unspecified cause	*	32.5	21.6	11.6	33.2
780-781	Other symptoms referable to the nervous system and sense organs	*	*3.2	*3.3	*	*5.1
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	*	*3.8	*2.2	*3.2	*5.5
390-458	Diseases of the circulatory system	*	*	*	*	*2.8
782	Symptoms referable to the circulatory system	*	*	*	*	*2.7
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	463.2	800.7	664.9	598.9	1,263.9
460	Acute nasopharyngitis (common cold)	328.3	455.6	407.0	376.9	783.9
461-465						
500-508	Other upper respiratory tract disease	62.3	163.0	118.7	106.6	225.2
470-474	Influenza	14.9	32.5	24.0	23.5	47.4
466,490-493	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	26.1	91.7	70.3	47.5	117.8
480-486	Other diseases of the respiratory tract (including pneumonia)	*	*	*2.2	*	*4.2
510-519						
783	Symptoms referable to the respiratory tract	29.7	55.8	42.8	42.7	85.4
520-577						
784,785	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	176.0	103.3	142.5	136.9	279.4
520-525	Disorders of the teeth and supporting structures	107.9	*8.4	64.5	51.9	116.3
536	Disorders of function of stomach (including indigestion)	33.0	59.5	43.9	48.6	92.5
(c)	Other diseases of the digestive system	*6.7	11.9	*8.0	10.6	18.6
784,785	Symptoms referable to the digestive system (including abdominal pain)	28.5	23.4	26.1	25.9	51.9
580-629						
786,792	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	100.9	127.6	125.8	102.6	228.4
580-599	Diseases of the urinary system	*6.5	*6.3	*3.4	9.4	12.9
600-629	Diseases of the genital organs (including breast)	*	*5.8	*	*6.0	*6.5
786,792	Symptoms referable to the genito-urinary system	93.7	115.4	121.9	87.2	209.1
680-709,788.2	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	111.2	105.0	118.6	97.6	216.2
690-693	Eczema and dermatitis (including allergy unspecified)	54.9	56.2	58.2	52.9	111.1
680-689						
694-709	Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	19.2	22.5	27.1	14.6	41.7
788.2	Rash not otherwise specified	37.1	26.2	33.3	30.0	63.3
710-738,787	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	*3.4	42.8	22.2	24.0	46.2
710-738	Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	*	11.0	*4.3	*8.9	13.2
787	Symptoms referable to limbs and joints	*	31.8	17.9	15.2	33.0
(d)	Other diseases	*2.9	*7.1	*5.7	*4.3	10.0
(e)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	*8.2	14.0	12.5	9.8	22.2
N800-N999	Injuries or illness due to accidents, poisonings and violence	28.1	93.3	69.3	52.1	121.4
000-999	Total recent illnesses	1,072.2	1,731.5	1,472.2	1,331.4	2,803.6

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) International code numbers 526-535, 537-577. (d) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs and organs. (e) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-789, 793-796.

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY, 1977-78

TABLE 16. INCIDENCE RATES OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED FOR PERSONS AGED UNDER 15 YEARS (a) :
TYPE OF ILLNESS (DETAILED LIST) BY AGE AND SEX

International code number	Type of illness (b)	Number of recent illnesses per 1,000 persons aged –				
		0-4	5-14	Total under 15		
				Males	Females	Persons
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	56.9	38.6	41.4	47.6	44.4
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	*3.3	7.5	6.7	5.7	6.2
277	Obesity, not specified as of endocrine origin	*	5.4	*3.4	*3.9	3.7
240-276						
278,279	Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	*3.3	*2.1	*3.2	*1.8	2.5
290-315						
790.0,790.2	Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	55.1	64.0	62.9	59.5	61.2
..	Anxiety due to exam/school worries	*	10.0	7.1	6.8	7.0
..	Nervousness due to family worries	*	4.2	*2.5	*4.1	3.3
790.0,790.2	Other nervousness/depression	8.9	19.6	16.7	15.8	16.3
290-315	Mental disorders	44.2	30.3	36.6	32.8	34.7
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	36.3	62.9	52.7	56.2	54.4
780,781,791	Migraine	*	4.3	*3.0	*3.0	3.0
346						
360-379	Diseases of the eye (including blindness)	16.4	14.2	13.4	16.5	14.9
380-389	Diseases of the ear and mastoids	17.2	29.2	22.7	28.3	25.4
320-345						
347-359	Other diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	*	*0.9	*	*	*0.6
791	Headache of unspecified cause	*	13.0	11.5	6.5	9.0
780,781	Other symptoms referable to the nervous system and sense organs	*	*1.3	*1.7	*	*1.4
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	*	*1.5	*1.2	*1.8	*1.5
390-458	Diseases of the circulatory system	*	*	*	*	*0.7
782	Symptoms referable to the circulatory system	*	*	*	*	*0.7
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	398.1	319.3	352.7	335.3	344.3
460	Acute nasopharyngitis (common cold)	282.1	181.7	215.9	211.0	213.5
461-465						
500-508	Other upper respiratory tract disease	53.5	65.0	62.9	59.7	61.3
470-474	Influenza	12.8	13.0	12.7	13.1	12.9
466,490-493	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	22.4	36.6	37.3	26.6	32.1
480-486	Other diseases of the respiratory tract (including pneumonia)	*	*	*1.2	*	*1.1
510-519						
783	Symptoms referable to the respiratory tract	25.5	22.2	22.7	23.9	23.3
520-577						
784,785	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	151.3	41.2	75.6	76.7	76.1
520-525	Disorders of the teeth and supporting structures	92.7	*3.4	34.2	29.0	31.7
536	Disorders of function of stomach (including indigestion)	28.3	23.7	23.3	27.2	25.2
(c)	Other diseases of the digestive system	*5.7	4.8	*4.3	5.9	5.1
784,785	Symptoms referable to the digestive system (including abdominal pain)	24.5	9.3	13.8	14.5	14.1
580-629						
786,792	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	86.7	50.9	66.7	57.5	62.2
580-599	Diseases of the urinary system	*5.6	*2.5	*1.8	5.3	3.5
600-629	Diseases of the genital organs (including breast)	*	*2.3	*	*3.4	*1.8
786,792	Symptoms referable to the genito-urinary system	80.5	46.0	64.7	48.8	57.0
680-709,788.2	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	95.6	41.9	62.9	54.6	58.9
690-693	Eczema and dermatitis (including allergy unspecified)	47.2	22.4	30.9	29.6	30.3
680-689						
694-709	Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	16.5	9.0	14.4	8.2	11.4
788.2	Rash not otherwise specified	31.9	10.5	17.7	16.8	17.2
710-738,787	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	*2.9	17.1	11.8	13.5	12.6
710-738	Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	*	4.4	*2.3	*4.9	3.6
787	Symptoms referable to limbs and joints	*	12.7	9.5	8.5	9.0
(d)	Other diseases	*2.5	*2.8	*3.0	*2.4	2.7
(e)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	*7.1	5.6	6.6	5.5	6.1
N800-N999	Injuries or illness due to accidents, poisonings and violence	24.2	37.2	36.8	29.2	33.1
000-999	Total recent illnesses	921.4	690.5	780.9	745.4	763.6

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) International code numbers 526-535, 537-577. (d) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs and organs. (e) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-789, 793-796.

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY, 1977-78

SECTION 4 : COMPLAINTS AND ILLNESSES REPORTED BY PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE

TABLE 17. NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS REPORTED BY PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE (a) : CATEGORY OF COMPLAINT BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

Category of complaint	Age group (years)				Total		
	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons
Sore throat, cold	559.7	751.7	374.5	121.3	882.8	924.4	1,807.2
Cough, bringing up phlegm	299.7	501.4	386.0	188.1	764.9	610.2	1,375.2
Shortness of breath at night or with light exercise	116.3	238.6	275.5	210.7	392.7	448.3	841.0
Feeling tense or nervous	292.8	724.5	560.6	213.9	668.3	1,123.5	1,791.8
Feeling anxious	191.0	395.8	301.4	127.9	389.9	626.2	1,016.1
Feeling depressed	258.3	375.0	303.9	139.3	373.2	703.2	1,076.4
Trouble sleeping	295.7	560.7	525.0	243.6	655.4	969.7	1,625.1
Severe headache	269.1	496.4	340.6	106.6	434.1	778.5	1,212.6
Dizziness	95.5	136.8	161.3	133.3	187.5	339.4	526.9
Unusual weakness or tiredness	158.6	287.7	249.7	154.9	338.5	512.4	850.9
Joint pain, swelling or arthritis	82.2	280.4	622.6	421.8	563.5	843.5	1,407.0
Pain in legs	182.5	314.6	402.4	254.6	487.4	666.7	1,154.0
Severe backache	139.6	380.9	337.7	149.1	442.2	565.0	1,007.3
Muscle pains	199.8	322.4	306.2	124.6	522.2	430.8	953.0
Upset stomach, vomiting, diarrhoea or stomach pain	227.8	352.9	229.1	103.3	382.7	530.5	913.1
Chest pain	58.8	124.5	156.4	81.3	237.5	183.6	421.0
Earache or draining ear	62.8	91.1	71.7	24.4	98.1	151.8	249.9
ringing in the ear	37.0	79.9	150.8	75.9	187.5	156.1	343.6
Skin rash	135.3	180.8	150.2	64.4	243.8	286.9	530.6
Seriously overweight	43.8	116.2	117.8	25.8	84.4	219.2	303.6
Heart trouble	*5.3	18.9	116.3	149.5	142.2	147.9	290.1
Unusual bleeding from any part of the body	30.9	37.7	32.9	14.7	61.9	54.3	116.2
Frequent or painful urination, kidney or bladder trouble	37.9	68.6	73.1	75.4	81.3	173.7	255.0
Loss of appetite	90.6	101.0	65.1	53.7	136.8	173.6	310.3
Difficulty with eye sight (even with glasses)	57.9	97.9	189.9	163.2	230.4	278.5	508.9
Other complaints due to accident or injury	66.2	70.2	49.8	22.5	129.6	79.1	208.7
Other complaints	115.1	203.3	130.1	82.9	264.0	267.4	531.4
Total complaints	4,110.4	7,309.8	6,680.2	3,526.6	9,382.7	12,244.4	21,627.0

(a) Provision was made to record up to 27 complaints per person aged 15 years or more. Estimates of the numbers of persons with one or more complaints correspond to the estimates of persons with recent illness, as shown in Tables 1 and 3.

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TABLE 18. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED BY PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS (DETAILED LIST) BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

International code number	Type of illness (b)	Age group (years)				Total		
		15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	97.9	138.8	68.2	22.6	141.4	186.0	327.5
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	44.5	136.3	148.7	52.3	130.6	251.3	381.8
277	Obesity, not specified as of endocrine origin	33.9	98.5	98.1	22.9	73.4	179.9	253.3
240-276 278,279	Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	10.6	37.8	50.5	29.5	57.1	71.3	128.5
290-315 790.0, 790.2	Mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	610.6	1,102.8	798.6	341.3	1,136.9	1,716.4	2,853.3
300	Neurosis	39.5	80.1	82.9	30.9	102.2	131.3	233.5
..	Anxiety due to exam/school worries	94.3	16.4	*	*	53.5	57.4	110.9
..	Nervous tension at or due to work	78.4	228.5	104.3	*4.3	282.5	133.0	415.5
..	Nervousness due to family worries	68.6	194.2	140.5	58.6	111.4	350.5	461.8
..	Housewives-boredom/tension/depression	*8.1	35.7	*6.3	*2.6	*	51.7	52.7
790.0	Nervousness of unspecified cause	110.7	251.9	218.4	100.9	212.9	469.1	681.9
790.2	Depression	71.8	66.1	43.9	27.0	75.0	133.7	208.7
306.4	Insomnia	109.0	169.5	165.3	98.0	240.6	301.2	541.8
(c)	Other mental disorders	30.2	60.5	36.8	19.0	58.0	88.4	146.4
320-389 780,781,791	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	265.9	444.3	477.2	287.4	660.9	813.9	1,474.8
346	Migraine	35.8	89.6	55.1	12.7	53.3	139.9	193.2
360-379	Diseases of the eye (including blindness)	59.2	86.8	167.1	143.9	199.7	257.3	457.0
380-389	Diseases of the ear and mastoids	34.6	75.6	75.1	40.7	114.3	111.8	226.1
320-345 347-359	Other diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	*3.4	20.2	28.8	13.5	33.2	32.8	65.9
781.3	Hearing disturbance (including ringing in ear)	21.9	35.2	61.2	27.2	90.2	55.2	145.4
791	Headache of unspecified cause	86.1	116.7	69.8	21.8	134.1	160.3	294.4
780,781	Other symptoms referable to the nervous system and sense organs	24.9	20.1	20.2	27.7	36.1	56.7	92.9
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory system	18.8	94.4	291.8	274.0	277.3	401.6	679.0
400-404	Hypertension (high blood pressure)	*3.5	26.1	98.2	54.9	57.6	125.2	182.8
410-414	Ischaemic heart disease	*	*4.2	47.7	65.6	65.8	51.6	117.5
(d)	Other heart disease	*4.5	13.7	54.7	77.6	72.2	78.3	150.5
450-457	Diseases of the veins and lymphatic system (including varicose veins and haemorrhoids)	*4.7	39.5	52.5	16.1	33.8	79.1	112.8
390,392.1 430-448,458	Other diseases of the circulatory system	*3.0	*5.9	32.9	54.3	43.8	52.3	96.2
782	Symptoms referable to the circulatory system	*3.1	*4.9	*5.7	*5.5	*4.2	15.0	19.2
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory system	764.8	1,132.8	716.1	300.6	1,517.1	1,397.2	2,914.3
460	Acute nasopharyngitis (common cold)	362.2	466.8	234.4	78.0	565.4	576.0	1,141.4
461-465								
500-508	Other upper respiratory tract diseases	207.1	361.1	209.0	78.2	458.3	397.2	855.5
470-474	Influenza	59.4	96.5	70.3	21.7	119.4	128.5	247.9
466,490-493	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	41.9	82.0	91.2	61.2	140.9	135.3	276.2
480-486	Other diseases of the respiratory tract (including pneumonia)	*5.1	12.6	16.9	15.7	31.4	18.9	50.3
510-519 783	Symptoms referable to the respiratory tract	89.1	113.9	94.4	45.8	201.7	141.4	343.1

For footnotes see next page.

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TABLE 18. NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED BY PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS (DETAILED LIST) BY AGE AND SEX - *continued*
(⁰⁰⁰)

International code number	Type of illness (b)	Age group (years)				Total		
		15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons
520-577	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	136.1	203.9	159.9	89.9	282.6	307.1	589.7
784,785	Disorders of the teeth and supporting structures	18.8	26.1	*4.3	*2.9	21.6	30.5	52.1
520-525	Disorders of function of stomach (including indigestion)	63.7	91.5	58.4	30.6	107.8	136.3	244.1
536	Other diseases of the digestive system	16.0	56.8	75.7	40.9	106.7	82.7	189.3
(e)	Symptoms referable to the digestive system (including abdominal pain)	37.7	29.5	21.4	15.6	46.6	57.6	104.1
784,785								
580-629	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	46.9	96.2	91.5	62.3	64.8	232.0	296.9
786,792	Diseases of the urinary system	21.9	40.5	46.3	38.0	40.7	106.0	146.6
580-599	Diseases of female genital organs (excluding breast)	21.6	47.5	34.8	*4.4	..	108.3	108.3
612-629	Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	*	*4.2	*2.5	*7.3	12.7	*	14.4
600-611	Symptoms referable to the genito-urinary system	*3.1	*4.1	*7.9	12.5	11.5	16.1	27.6
786,792								
680-709,788.2	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	125.6	173.6	126.0	56.9	234.7	247.3	482.0
690-693	Eczema and dermatitis (including allergy unspecified)	63.0	95.5	61.6	24.0	112.4	131.6	244.1
680-689	Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	31.4	37.2	30.9	14.2	60.7	52.9	113.6
694-709	Rash not otherwise specified	31.2	40.9	33.5	18.7	61.5	62.8	124.4
788.2								
710-738,787	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	342.2	681.0	927.3	539.4	1,139.9	1,350.0	2,489.9
710-715	Arthritis	14.6	122.6	491.8	362.3	335.6	655.6	991.2
716-718	Rheumatism	106.8	166.0	116.3	55.6	261.7	183.0	444.7
725	Displacement of intervertebral disc	9.3	51.4	60.1	9.1	66.9	63.1	129.9
728	Vertebrogenic pain syndrome (back pain)	69.4	158.9	101.4	26.0	179.1	176.6	355.8
(f)	Other diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	14.5	32.0	26.6	23.5	54.0	42.7	96.7
787	Symptoms referable to limbs and joints	127.6	150.1	131.1	62.9	242.6	229.0	471.6
(g)	Other diseases	58.8	102.5	43.1	27.4	49.3	182.5	231.8
140-239	Neoplasms (cancer)	*4.0	9.5	19.5	16.2	26.6	22.7	49.3
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	*5.3	9.1	*8.5	*4.7	*5.7	21.9	27.6
630-678	Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, etc. and certain causes of perinatal morbidity	48.0	64.1	*	*	*	112.8	112.8
760-779	Congenital anomalies	*	13.4	*8.2	*	*7.0	16.7	23.7
740-759	Illness due to absence of limbs or organs	*	*6.3	*6.3	*5.3	10.0	*8.3	18.3
..								
(h)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions not elsewhere included	59.8	119.7	93.7	67.7	136.0	204.9	340.9
790.1	Debility and undue fatigue	54.2	97.1	82.5	33.6	104.4	163.0	267.4
(i)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	*5.6	22.7	11.1	34.1	31.6	41.9	73.5
N800-N999	Injuries or illness due to accidents, poisonings and violence	164.9	227.1	118.7	61.1	344.1	227.7	571.8
000-999	Total recent illnesses	2,736.6	4,653.3	4,060.8	2,182.9	6,115.7	7,518.0	13,633.6

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) International code numbers 290-299, 301-306.3, 306.5-315. (d) International code numbers 391, 392.0, 393-398, 420-429. (e) International code numbers 526-535, 537-577. (f) International code numbers 720-724, 726, 727, 729-738. (g) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-759, 760-779. (h) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-789, 790.1, 793-796. (i) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-789, 793-796.

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TABLE 19. INCIDENCE RATES OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED BY PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS (DETAILED LIST) BY AGE AND SEX

International code number	Type of illness (b)	Number of recent illnesses per 1,000 persons aged –						Total		
		15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Persons		
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	41.8	36.5	25.0	18.4	28.2	36.6	32.4		
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	19.0	35.9	54.4	42.7	26.0	49.5	37.8		
277	Obesity, not specified as of endocrine origin	14.5	25.9	35.9	18.7	14.6	35.4	25.1		
240-276	Other endocrine, nutritional and									
278,279	metabolic diseases	4.5	10.0	18.5	24.1	11.4	14.1	12.7		
290-315	Mental disorders, nervous tension and									
790.0,790.2	depression	260.8	290.2	292.1	278.7	226.3	338.1	282.5		
300	Neurosis	16.9	21.1	30.3	25.2	20.3	25.9	23.1		
..	Anxiety due to exam/school worries	40.3	4.3	*	*	10.6	11.3	11.0		
..	Nervous tension at or due to work	33.5	60.1	38.2	*3.5	56.2	26.2	41.1		
..	Nervousness due to family worries	29.3	51.1	51.4	47.8	22.2	69.0	45.7		
..	Housewives-boredom/tension/depression	*3.4	9.4	*2.3	*2.1	*	10.2	5.2		
790.0	Nervousness of unspecified cause	47.3	66.3	79.9	82.4	42.4	92.4	67.5		
790.2	Depression	30.7	17.4	16.1	22.0	14.9	26.3	20.7		
306.4	Insomnia	46.6	44.6	60.4	80.0	47.9	59.3	53.6		
(c)	Other mental disorders	12.9	15.9	13.4	15.5	11.6	17.4	14.5		
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous									
780,781,791	system and sense organs	113.6	116.9	174.6	234.7	131.6	160.3	146.0		
346	Migraine	15.3	23.6	20.1	10.4	10.6	27.6	19.1		
360-379	Diseases of the eye (including blindness)	25.3	22.8	61.1	117.5	39.8	50.7	45.2		
380-389	Diseases of the ear and mastoids	14.8	19.9	27.5	33.2	22.7	22.0	22.4		
320-345	Other diseases of the nervous system									
347-359	and sense organs	*1.4	5.3	10.5	11.0	6.6	6.5	6.5		
781.3	Hearing disturbance (including ringing									
	in ear)	9.3	9.2	22.4	22.2	18.0	10.9	14.4		
791	Headache of unspecified cause	36.8	30.7	25.5	17.8	26.7	31.6	29.1		
780,781	Other symptoms referable to the nervous									
	system and sense organs	10.6	5.3	7.4	22.6	7.2	11.2	9.2		
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory									
	system	8.0	24.8	106.7	223.7	55.2	79.1	67.2		
400-404	Hypertension (high blood pressure)	*1.5	6.9	35.9	44.8	11.5	24.7	18.1		
410-414	Ischaemic heart disease	*	*1.1	17.4	53.6	13.1	10.2	11.6		
(d)	Other heart disease	*1.9	3.6	20.0	63.3	14.4	15.4	14.9		
450-457	Diseases of the veins and lymphatic									
	system (including varicose veins									
	and haemorrhoids)	*2.0	10.4	19.2	13.2	6.7	15.6	11.2		
390,392.1										
430-448,458	Other diseases of the circulatory system	*1.3	*1.6	12.0	44.4	8.7	10.3	9.5		
782	Symptoms referable to the circulatory									
	system	*1.3	*1.3	*2.1	*4.5	*0.8	3.0	1.9		
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory									
	system	326.7	298.0	261.9	245.4	302.0	275.2	288.5		
460	Acute nasopharyngitis (common cold)	154.7	122.8	85.7	63.7	112.6	113.5	113.0		
461-465										
500-508	Other upper respiratory tract diseases	88.5	95.0	76.4	63.9	91.2	78.2	84.7		
470-474	Influenza	25.4	25.4	25.7	17.7	23.8	25.3	24.5		
466,490-493	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	17.9	21.6	33.4	49.9	28.1	26.7	27.3		
480-486	Other diseases of the respiratory tract									
	(including pneumonia)	*2.2	3.3	6.2	12.8	6.3	3.7	5.0		
510-519										
783	Symptoms referable to the respiratory tract	38.0	30.0	34.5	37.4	40.2	27.8	34.0		

For footnotes see next page.

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TABLE 19. INCIDENCE RATES OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED BY PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE (a) : TYPE OF ILLNESS (DETAILED LIST) BY AGE AND SEX – *continued*

International code number	Type of illness (b)	Number of recent illnesses per 1,000 persons aged –						
		15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Total		
						Males	Females	Total
520-577 784,785	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive system	58.1	53.6	58.5	73.4	56.3	60.5	58.4
520-525	Disorders of the teeth and supporting structures	8.0	6.9	*1.6	*2.4	4.3	6.0	5.2
536	Disorders of function of stomach (including indigestion)	27.2	24.1	21.4	25.0	21.5	26.9	24.2
(e) 784,785	Other diseases of the digestive system	6.8	14.9	27.7	33.4	21.2	16.3	18.7
	Symptoms referable to the digestive system (including abdominal pain)	16.1	7.8	7.8	12.7	9.3	11.3	10.3
580-629 786,792	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary system	20.0	25.3	33.5	50.9	12.9	45.7	29.4
580-599	Diseases of the urinary system	9.3	10.6	16.9	31.0	8.1	20.9	14.5
612-629	Diseases of female genital organs (excluding breast)	9.2	12.5	12.7	*3.6	..	21.3	10.7
600-611	Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	*	*1.1	*0.9	*6.0	2.5	*	1.4
786,792	Symptoms referable to the genito-urinary system	*1.3	*1.1	*2.9	10.2	2.3	3.2	2.7
680-709,788.2	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	53.7	45.7	46.1	46.4	46.7	48.7	47.7
690-693	Eczema and dermatitis (including allergy unspecified)	26.9	25.1	22.5	19.6	22.4	25.9	24.2
680-689	Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	13.4	9.8	11.3	11.6	12.1	10.4	11.2
694-709 788.2	Rash not otherwise specified	13.3	10.8	12.3	15.2	12.2	12.4	12.3
710-738,787	Diseases and symptoms of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	146.2	179.2	339.2	440.5	226.9	265.9	246.5
710-715	Arthritis	6.2	32.3	179.9	295.8	66.8	129.1	98.1
716-718	Rheumatism	45.6	43.7	42.5	45.4	52.1	36.0	44.0
725	Displacement of intervertebral disc	4.0	13.5	22.0	7.5	13.3	12.4	12.9
728	Vertebrogenic pain syndrome (back pain)	29.7	41.8	37.1	21.3	35.7	34.8	35.2
(f)	Other diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	6.2	8.4	9.7	19.2	10.7	8.4	9.6
787	Symptoms referable to limbs and joints	54.5	39.5	47.9	51.3	48.3	45.1	46.7
(g)	Other diseases	25.1	27.0	15.8	22.3	9.8	35.9	22.9
140-239	Neoplasms (cancer)	1.7	2.5	7.1	13.3	5.3	4.5	4.9
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	2.2	2.4	*3.1	*5.8	1.1	4.3	2.7
630-678 760-779	Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, etc. and certain causes of perinatal morbidity	20.5	16.9	*	*	*	22.2	11.2
740-759	Congenital anomalies	*	*3.5	*3.0	*	*1.4	3.3	2.3
..	Illness due to absence of limbs or organs	*	*1.7	*2.3	*4.4	2.0	1.6	1.8
(h)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions not elsewhere included	25.6	31.5	34.3	55.3	27.1	40.4	33.8
790.1	Debility and undue fatigue	23.2	25.5	30.2	27.4	20.8	32.1	26.5
(i)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	*2.4	6.0	4.1	27.9	6.3	8.2	7.3
N800-N999	Injuries or illness due to accidents, poisonings and violence	70.4	59.7	43.4	49.9	68.5	44.9	56.6
000-999	Total recent illnesses	1,169.2	1,224.3	1,485.4	1,782.5	1,217.5	1,480.8	1,349.9

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 illnesses per person. (b) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (c) International code numbers 290-299, 301-306.3, 306.5-315. (d) International code numbers 391, 392.0, 393-398, 420-429. (e) International code numbers 526-535, 537-577. (f) International code numbers 720-724, 726, 727, 729-738. (g) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-759, 760-779. (h) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-789, 790.1, 793-796. (i) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-789, 793-796.

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TABLE 20. PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE WHO REPORTED RECENT ILLNESS : TYPE OF MAJOR RECENT ILLNESS BY TYPE OF USUAL MAJOR ACTIVITY ('000)

International code number	Illness group (a)	Type of usual major activity						Total (b)
		Working in a job or profession	Retired	Home duties	Per- manently unable to work	Full-time student	Other	
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	89.4	9.6	42.8	*	13.5	*2.9	159.5
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	90.1	9.2	73.5	*	*3.5	*	179.1
290-315	Mental disorders, nervous tension and							
790.0,790.2	depression	800.7	60.3	503.1	12.0	112.9	27.0	1,516.5
320-389	Diseases and symptoms of the nervous system							
780,781,791	and sense organs	318.1	62.7	219.2	*7.9	39.1	*8.4	656.2
390-458,782	Diseases and symptoms of the circulatory							
	system	88.9	92.2	147.0	16.9	*	*4.1	351.4
460-519,783	Diseases and symptoms of the respiratory							
	system	872.6	83.7	311.7	9.1	133.9	19.4	1,430.5
520-577	Diseases and symptoms of the digestive							
784,785	system	151.6	23.5	83.8	*3.2	16.6	*6.2	284.8
580-629	Diseases and symptoms of the genito-urinary							
786,792	system	51.6	18.6	69.8	*	9.2	*	150.0
680-709	Diseases and symptoms of the skin and							
788.2	subcutaneous tissue	160.3	9.5	51.2	*	17.8	*3.1	243.5
710-738	Diseases and symptoms of the							
787	musculo-skeletal system and							
	connective tissue	652.9	146.5	476.7	14.3	53.5	10.6	1,356.0
(c)	Other diseases	36.4	14.8	90.1	*	*2.3	*2.2	147.8
(d)	Other symptoms and ill-defined conditions	79.4	10.6	45.6	*	*3.8	*	141.7
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence	225.0	18.1	59.2	*3.4	25.8	*6.0	337.6
	Total persons	3,616.9	559.3	2,173.7	73.9	433.5	93.4	6,954.5

(a) Codes from the International Classification of Diseases have been reordered so that diseases and symptoms of a particular body system are grouped together. (See paragraph 18 of Explanatory Notes.) (b) Includes those persons who did not state their usual major activity. (c) International code numbers 140-239, 280-289, 630-678, 740-779. Also includes absence of limbs or organs. (d) International code numbers 788.0, 788.1, 788.3-790.1, 793-796.

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SECTION 5 : FURTHER DETAILS RELATING TO THE FOUR MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED RECENT ILLNESS GROUPS

TABLE 21. DISEASES AND SYMPTOMS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM ('000)

	Type of illness and International code number						
	Acute naso-pharyngitis (common cold)	Other upper respiratory tract diseases	Influenza	Bronchitis, emphysema, asthma	Other respiratory diseases	Symptoms referable to respiratory system	Total respiratory diseases and symptoms
	460	461-465, 500-508	470-474	466, 490-493	480-486, 510-519	783	460-519, 783
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED : ASSOCIATED DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN							
Concerned or pained :							
A lot	157.9	162.6	67.8	95.0	10.0	50.1	543.3
Somewhat	897.5	499.2	164.1	190.9	27.6	149.6	1,928.8
Not at all	868.7	418.7	62.6	107.6	16.9	227.6	1,702.1
Total recent illnesses (a)	1,925.2	1,080.7	295.3	394.0	54.4	428.5	4,178.2
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED (b) : BY AGE AND SEX							
Age							
Under 15	180.1	137.7	21.7	101.4	*2.4	29.6	472.8
15-24	44.8	66.7	25.5	30.2	*4.8	18.7	190.7
25-44	81.2	133.2	38.1	59.7	9.7	37.2	359.1
45-64	53.4	78.8	22.7	72.4	11.7	38.3	277.3
65 or more	30.2	38.8	10.8	58.2	13.4	28.6	180.0
Sex							
Males	174.0	214.0	48.6	172.8	27.2	86.4	722.9
Females	215.6	241.2	70.2	149.1	14.9	66.0	757.0
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was consulted	389.7	455.3	118.8	321.8	42.1	152.3	1,480.0
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS NOT CONSULTED : MAIN REASON FOR NON-CONSULTATION							
Reason for non-consultation :							
Not serious enough	1,325.7	446.8	125.3	46.2	*8.5	205.4	2,157.9
Doctors cannot help this illness	65.8	73.9	15.2	12.0	*2.2	24.6	193.7
Doctors 'useless'	15.7	21.4	*7.0	*	*	*7.0	51.5
Personal fears	11.4	*7.0	*	*2.3	*	*3.4	25.3
No time	23.7	13.7	10.4	*	*	*8.1	58.2
Too costly/bad transport	17.3	*8.0	*5.0	*	*	*	33.4
Other reason	76.0	53.7	12.2	*8.3	*	25.5	177.1
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was not consulted (c)	1,535.6	625.5	176.5	72.2	12.3	276.2	2,698.2

(a) Includes those illnesses for which degree of concern or pain was not stated. (b) Includes those illnesses for which a doctor was consulted either in the two weeks before interview or previously, or for which arrangements for consultation had been made. (c) Includes reason not stated.

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TABLE 22. MENTAL DISORDERS, NERVOUS TENSION AND DEPRESSION ('000)

Illness and International code number										
Neuroses	Anxiety over school/exams	Nervous tension due to work	Nervousness due to family worries	Housewives' boredom, tension or depression	Nervousness of unspecified cause	Depression	Insomnia	Other mental disorders	Total mental disorders, nervous tension and depression	
300	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	790.2	306.4	(b)	(c)	
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED : ASSOCIATED DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN										
Concerned or pained :										
A lot	72.2	24.5	77.5	169.6	*7.6	170.9	59.9	62.4	56.4	701.2
Somewhat.	103.0	78.0	212.3	202.5	28.2	330.8	97.0	206.6	94.3	1,352.7
Not at all	61.3	34.1	124.3	100.8	16.8	237.1	52.3	338.4	54.5	1,019.6
Total recent illnesses (d)	236.5	136.6	415.8	473.8	52.7	740.3	209.7	607.4	205.2	3,078.1
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED (e) : AGE AND SEX										
Age										
Under 15	*	*7.3	*	*3.4	*	22.6	*	17.4	30.8	83.1
15-24	*7.0	*6.5	*7.7	*8.0	*	27.0	*8.5	10.8	*	78.3
25-44	23.4	*	41.0	51.5	9.3	89.2	14.3	22.2	20.1	271.9
45-64	36.9	*	27.2	45.1	*	121.5	17.9	61.6	20.8	332.7
65 or more	14.9	*	*	25.0	*	65.4	14.3	56.5	11.6	189.8
Sex										
Males	27.9	*6.8	49.8	20.4	*	96.9	12.6	57.2	37.1	309.4
Females	55.3	*8.1	27.2	112.7	12.0	228.9	42.9	111.3	48.2	646.5
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was consulted	83.2	14.9	77.0	133.0	12.8	325.8	55.5	168.5	85.3	956.0
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS NOT CONSULTED : MAIN REASON FOR NON-CONSULTATION										
Reason for non-consultation :										
Not serious enough	66.2	79.0	162.7	145.6	20.4	211.0	65.3	284.2	65.8	1,100.2
Doctors cannot help this illness	52.5	27.3	120.9	139.7	15.3	120.8	56.9	93.7	33.8	660.9
Doctors 'useless'	*2.9	*	*3.0	*6.8	*	9.3	*3.4	*6.9	*3.7	36.1
Personal fears	*4.9	*	*5.0	*6.2	*	*7.8	*5.0	*4.8	*	37.9
No time	*7.1	*	12.9	*7.5	*	10.5	*4.1	*6.7	*	52.0
Too costly/bad transport	*	*	*	*2.6	*	*5.4	*3.1	*	*	16.2
Other reason	19.2	12.1	32.9	32.4	*	49.6	16.4	40.7	13.4	218.7
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was not consulted	153.3	121.7	338.8	340.8	39.9	414.5	154.2	438.9	120.0	2,122.1

(a) International code number 790.0 (Nervousness) was subdivided according to the reported cause of the nervousness. (b) Includes International code numbers 290-299, 301-306.3, 306.5-315. (c) Includes International code numbers 290-315, 790.0, 790.2. (d) Includes those illnesses for which degree of concern or pain was not stated. (e) Includes those illnesses for which a doctor was consulted either in the two weeks before interview or previously, or for which arrangements for consultation had been made.

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TABLE 23. DISEASES AND SYMPTOMS OF THE MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM AND CONNECTIVE TISSUE ('000)

Illness and International code number						
	Arthritis	Rheumatism	Vertebrogenic pain syndrome (back pain)	Other diseases	Symptoms referable to limbs and joints	Total diseases and symptoms of the musculo- skeletal system and connective tissue
	710-715	716-718	728	(a)	787	710-738,787
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED : ASSOCIATED DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN						
Concerned or pained :						
A lot	307.0	74.0	114.1	88.2	100.0	683.3
Somewhat	548.6	252.8	201.5	118.7	292.5	1,414.1
Not at all	132.9	121.9	42.9	22.4	112.1	432.2
Total illnesses (b)	991.6	450.5	359.0	230.4	504.6	2,536.2
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED (c) : AGE AND SEX						
Age						
Under 15	*	*	*	*3.1	12.8	19.5
15-24	*7.1	12.9	16.7	9.4	25.0	71.1
25-44	69.4	44.0	64.0	42.1	44.8	264.1
45-64	339.6	53.4	41.5	55.4	48.5	538.4
65 or more	281.2	33.7	14.8	23.7	40.6	394.0
Sex						
Males	229.4	63.7	62.0	67.4	80.4	502.9
Females	468.2	81.5	77.0	66.2	91.2	784.1
Total illnesses for which a doctor was consulted	697.6	145.2	139.0	133.6	171.6	1,287.0
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS NOT CONSULTED : MAIN REASON FOR NON-CONSULTATION						
Reason for non-consultation :						
Not serious enough	132.6	216.2	108.5	22.1	225.4	704.7
Doctors cannot help this illness	105.4	44.5	54.6	41.4	40.0	285.9
Doctors 'useless'	*5.6	*3.5	*5.3	*4.8	*3.4	22.5
Personal fears	*6.5	*3.9	*4.6	*	*3.2	18.9
No time	11.7	*6.3	13.7	*	17.0	50.3
Too costly/bad transport	*3.4	*	*3.4	*	*2.3	10.3
Other reason	28.8	30.8	30.0	25.1	41.7	156.4
Total illnesses for which a doctor was not consulted	294.0	305.3	220.0	96.7	333.0	1,249.1

(a) International code numbers 720-727, 729-738. (b) Includes those illnesses for which degree of concern or pain was not stated. (c) Includes those illnesses for which a doctor was consulted either in the two weeks before interview, or previously, or for which arrangements for consultation had been made.

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TABLE 24. DISEASES AND SYMPTOMS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SENSE ORGANS ('000)

	Illness and International code number							Total diseases and symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs
	Disease group				Symptom group			
	Migraine	Diseases of the eye (includes blindness)	Diseases of the ear and mastoids	Other diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	Hearing disturbance (includes ringing in ear)	Headache of unspecified cause	Other symptoms of the nervous system and sense organs	
	346	360-379	380-389	(a)	781.3	791	(b)	(c)
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES REPORTED : ASSOCIATED DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN								
Concerned or pained :								
A lot	119.2	98.7	74.0	29.2	10.4	99.8	16.8	448.1
Somewhat	71.9	249.4	166.6	32.7	48.2	172.3	41.2	782.3
Not at all	13.1	160.3	77.7	*6.4	86.1	54.9	39.3	437.8
Total illnesses (d)	204.3	511.7	319.4	68.3	145.5	327.6	97.9	1,674.7
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED (e) : AGE AND SEX								
Age								
Under 15	9.8	37.2	68.2	*	*	*8.2	*3.8	128.9
15-24	25.5	27.3	14.3	*3.1	*3.2	14.8	*4.6	92.8
25-44	65.7	35.6	41.5	13.0	13.4	30.7	*7.6	207.6
45-64	38.3	67.8	45.0	21.8	27.9	22.4	10.1	233.2
65 or more	10.8	105.9	33.0	11.2	12.8	9.8	17.3	200.8
Sex								
Males	39.7	113.8	95.2	26.0	36.9	32.5	18.8	362.9
Females	110.4	160.0	106.8	24.8	20.5	53.4	24.6	500.5
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was consulted	150.1	273.8	202.0	50.8	57.4	85.9	43.4	863.4
NUMBER OF RECENT ILLNESSES FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS NOT CONSULTED : MAIN REASON FOR NON-CONSULTATION								
Reason for non-consultation :								
Not serious enough	20.1	85.8	69.8	*7.2	49.3	177.9	38.8	448.8
Doctors cannot help this illness	19.6	34.0	20.7	*6.9	21.4	24.7	*7.0	134.3
Doctors 'useless'	*	*3.6	*	*	*3.6	*	*	10.0
Personal fears	*	*4.9	*	*	*	*3.7	*	12.2
No time	*5.1	38.5	*7.0	*	*3.9	10.6	*	66.3
Too costly/bad transport	*	13.1	*	*	*	*3.6	*	19.4
Other reason	*7.4	57.8	16.9	*2.8	9.5	19.5	*6.2	120.2
Total recent illnesses for which a doctor was not consulted	54.2	237.9	117.4	17.5	88.1	241.7	54.5	811.3

(a) International code numbers 320-345, 347-359. (b) International code numbers 780-781.2, 781.4-781.8. (c) International code numbers 320-389, 780, 781, 791. (d) Includes those illnesses for which degree of concern or pain was not stated. (e) Includes those illnesses for which a doctor was consulted either in the two weeks before interview or previously, or for which arrangements for consultation had been made.

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SECTION 6 : POPULATION ESTIMATES (FOR USE IN CALCULATION OF RATES)

TABLE 25. POPULATION ESTIMATES (a) : AGE BY SEX
(⁰000)

	<i>Age group (years)</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>Under 5</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-44</i>	<i>45-64</i>	<i>65 or more</i>	
Males	596.9	1,288.4	1,183.9	1,939.8	1,375.1	524.2	6,908.3
Females	566.8	1,219.4	1,156.7	1,861.0	1,358.8	700.4	6,863.1
Persons	1,163.7	2,507.7	2,340.7	3,800.8	2,733.9	1,224.6	13,771.4

(a) These estimates correspond to the population benchmarks for the Australian Health Survey and were derived from an average of the four mid-quarterly population estimates for 1977-78 adjusted for the scope of the survey.

TABLE 26. POPULATION ESTIMATES (a) : STATE OR TERRITORY BY SEX
(⁰000)

	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>N.T.</i>	<i>A.C.T.</i>	<i>Australia</i>
Males	2,429.0	1,861.5	1,043.5	630.4	595.6	202.1	40.3	106.0	6,908.3
Females	2,429.0	1,860.1	1,032.0	626.7	579.9	200.9	32.3	102.0	6,863.1
Persons	4,858.0	3,721.6	2,075.6	1,257.1	1,175.5	403.0	72.6	208.1	13,771.4

(a) These estimates correspond to the population benchmarks for the Australian Health Survey and were derived from an average of the four mid-quarterly population estimates for 1977-78 adjusted for the scope of the survey.

TABLE 27. SURVEY ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS OR MORE (a) : SELECTED COUNTRIES
OF BIRTH BY AGE AND SEX
(⁰000)

<i>Country of birth</i>	<i>Age group (years)</i>			<i>Total aged 15 years or more</i>		
	<i>15-44</i>	<i>45-64</i>	<i>65 or more</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
U.K. or Eire	573.1	272.5	178.4	534.8	489.3	1,024.1
Other English-speaking	102.9	28.3	12.1	75.3	68.1	143.4
Italy	164.9	113.1	24.9	167.4	135.6	302.9
Yugoslavia	98.1	24.7	*6.4	67.3	61.9	129.2
Greece	90.0	27.4	9.4	67.7	59.2	126.9
Other Europe	271.0	177.9	47.0	269.3	226.5	495.9
Other	184.2	54.9	20.0	133.1	126.0	259.1
<i>Total overseas born</i>	<i>1,484.3</i>	<i>698.9</i>	<i>298.2</i>	<i>1,314.9</i>	<i>1,166.6</i>	<i>2,481.4</i>
Australian born	4,657.2	2,035.0	926.4	3,708.2	3,910.4	7,618.6
Total	6,141.5	2,733.9	1,224.6	5,023.0	5,076.9	10,100.0

(a) Excludes persons outside the scope of the survey.

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APPENDIX 1 : TABLES SHOWING RECENT ILLNESS GROUPED ACCORDING TO I.C.D. CHAPTERS

The following tables show illnesses grouped according to the chapters of the International Classification of Diseases. (See paragraph 24 of Explanatory Notes.)

TABLE A. NUMBER (a) OF RECENT ILLNESSES : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY AGE AND SEX ('000)

International code number	Illness group	Age group (years)					Total		
		Under 15	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 or more	Males	Females	Total
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	163.1	97.9	138.8	68.2	22.6	219.5	271.1	490.6
140-239	Neoplasms	*	*4.0	9.5	19.5	16.2	27.1	22.8	49.9
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	22.7	44.5	136.3	148.7	52.3	143.1	261.4	404.5
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	*3.2	*5.3	9.1	*8.5	*4.7	*7.0	23.8	30.8
290-315	Mental disorders	127.5	178.7	310.1	285.0	147.9	469.8	579.4	1,049.2
320-389	Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	161.5	133.1	272.3	326.1	210.8	475.0	628.7	1,103.7
390-458	Diseases of the circulatory system	*2.8	15.7	89.5	286.1	268.5	274.3	388.3	662.6
460-519	Diseases of the respiratory system	1,178.4	675.7	1,019.0	621.7	254.8	1,937.5	1,812.1	3,749.7
520-577	Diseases of the digestive system	227.5	98.4	174.4	138.5	74.3	352.5	360.5	713.0
580-629	Diseases of the genito-urinary system	19.3	43.7	92.4	83.6	49.8	57.2	231.4	288.6
630-678	Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, etc. and certain causes of perinatal morbidity	*	48.0	64.1	*	*	*	112.8	113.3
680-709	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	152.9	94.4	132.6	92.5	38.2	258.4	252.1	510.5
710-738	Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	13.2	214.6	530.9	796.2	476.5	901.6	1,129.9	2,031.5
740-759	Congenital anomalies	*5.7	*	13.4	*8.2	*	10.4	19.0	29.4
780-796	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	603.4	916.3	1,427.8	1,052.4	498.7	2,030.5	2,467.9	4,498.4
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence	121.4	164.9	227.1	118.7	61.1	413.4	279.8	693.2
..	Absence of limbs or organs	*	*	*6.3	*6.3	*5.3	10.0	*8.3	18.3
Total recent illnesses		2,803.6	2,736.6	4,653.3	4,060.8	2,182.9	7,587.9	8,849.4	16,437.3

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person.

TABLE B. NUMBER (a) OF RECENT ILLNESSES : TYPE OF ILLNESS BY STATE ('000)

International code number	Illness group	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	165.2	169.5	53.3	28.1	48.7	15.0	3.2	7.5	490.6
140-239	Neoplasms	14.9	14.9	10.5	*3.3	*5.0	*0.8	*	*0.5	49.9
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	178.8	73.1	67.5	27.9	38.5	10.8	2.1	5.7	404.5
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	15.7	*4.1	*5.4	*1.5	*2.5	*1.2	*	*	30.8
290-315	Mental disorders	449.3	194.6	152.8	98.7	107.9	24.9	5.2	15.8	1,049.2
320-389	Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	426.0	240.6	176.6	95.9	106.6	35.1	6.8	16.1	1,103.7
390-458	Diseases of the circulatory system	275.7	162.8	91.5	52.3	47.9	24.1	1.5	7.0	662.6
460-519	Diseases of the respiratory system	1,319.3	1,072.4	559.5	302.0	317.3	103.9	18.6	56.6	3,749.7
520-577	Diseases of the digestive system	255.4	162.1	107.9	77.9	69.3	22.5	5.1	12.8	713.0
580-629	Diseases of the genito-urinary system	88.0	87.9	49.7	29.6	18.6	8.6	1.3	5.0	288.6
630-678	Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, etc. and certain causes of perinatal morbidity	43.2	38.8	8.4	10.7	*5.5	3.0	1.0	2.7	113.3
680-709	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	196.3	124.0	63.4	44.9	48.6	18.1	5.9	9.3	510.5
710-738	Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	831.9	455.4	308.8	167.1	189.1	53.7	6.0	19.6	2,031.5
740-759	Congenital anomalies	*8.4	14.5	*1.8	*	*1.7	*2.0	*0.3	*	29.4
780-796	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1,632.5	1,042.5	657.9	419.0	497.0	150.5	23.7	75.3	4,498.4
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings and violence	219.6	223.3	82.2	63.5	60.0	22.6	5.1	16.9	693.2
..	Absence of limbs or organs	*6.1	*8.1	*2.9	*	*	*	*	*	18.3
Total recent illnesses		6,126.1	4,088.5	2,400.1	1,423.7	1,564.7	496.9	85.9	251.3	16,437.3

(a) Provision was made to record up to 5 recent illnesses per person.

APPENDIX 2 : TECHNICAL NOTE ON SAMPLING VARIABILITY

Estimation procedure

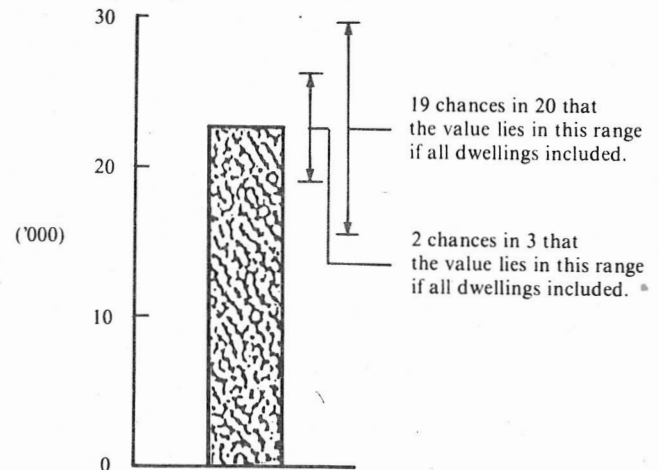
Estimates derived from the survey are obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of the likely difference is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors for general application is given below (Table C). These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors is as follows : Table 8 shows that the estimated number of persons aged 65 years or more who reported recent experience of Infective and parasitic diseases was 22,600. From the table below it will be seen that the estimate has a standard error of about 3,600 and therefore there are about two chances in three that the

value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 19,000 to 26,200 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 15,400 to 29,800. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



Persons aged 65 years or more who reported recent experience of Infective and parasitic diseases.

The size of the standard error in relation to the estimate indicates that the actual value could be greater or less (within standard error ranges) than the published figure. Estimates to which a person may contribute more than once (e.g. total number of recent illnesses reported in Table 8) would be expected to have slightly higher standard errors than indicated in Table C.

TABLE C. STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES - PERSONS

Size of estimate (persons)									Australia	
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Number	Per cent of estimate
150							70			
200							80			
250							90			
300							100			
350							110			
400							120			
450							130			
500							140			
600						300	150	240		
800						350	170	260		
1,000						380	200	300		
1,500						470	240	330		
2,000						540	280	480		
2,500						600	320	530	1,200	46.9
3,000		1,200	920	640	740	650	350	590	1,300	42.8
4,000	1,800	1,300	1,000	860	950	750	410	680	1,500	37.2
5,000	2,000	1,500	1,100	960	1,000	840	460	760	1,700	33.3
6,000	2,200	1,700	1,300	1,100	1,200	910	500	830	1,800	30.4
8,000	2,500	1,900	1,400	1,300	1,300	1,000	580	970	2,100	26.4
10,000	2,800	2,200	1,600	1,500	1,400	1,200	660	1,100	2,400	23.7
20,000	3,900	2,500	2,100	1,900	1,900	1,600	940	1,500	3,400	16.8
30,000	4,700	2,800	2,300	2,100	2,000	2,000	1,200	1,900	4,100	13.8
50,000	5,900	3,600	2,900	2,600	2,500	2,500	1,500	2,500	5,400	10.7
100,000	8,200	4,500	3,600	3,600	3,200	3,500			7,600	7.6
200,000	11,300	6,000	4,600	4,800	4,100	4,900			10,800	5.4
300,000	13,600	8,700	6,500	7,200	5,700				13,300	4.4
500,000	17,300	11,300	9,200	10,700	8,000				17,200	3.4
1,000,000	23,800	15,700	11,300	13,500	9,700				24,500	2.4
2,000,000	32,900	20,700	14,500	18,100	12,400				34,800	1.7
5,000,000		30,100	20,600						55,400	1.1

Brackets around standard errors indicate a relative standard error greater than or equal to 25 per cent.

4. As the standard errors in the table show, *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates would thus be subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In this publication, only estimates with relative standard errors less than 25 per cent are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. Estimates with relative standard errors between 25 per cent and 50 per cent have been included and are preceded by an *. Considerable care should be exercised in using them because they are subject to such high errors. Estimates with relative standard errors greater than 50 per cent have not been shown and although figures for these components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

5. The reliability of an estimated percentage or rate computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the relative standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the relative standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The relative standard errors of the numerator can be obtained from Table C.

6. Approximate standard errors of rates or percentages may be derived by first obtaining the relative standard error of the number of persons corresponding to the numerator of this rate or percentage and then applying this figure to the estimated rate or percentage. An example of this calculation is as follows: Table 1 shows that the rate of recent illnesses per 1,000 females is 679.1 and that the numerator of this rate is 4,660,400. By interpolation from Table C the standard error of the numerator is approximately 53,100, which is a relative standard error of 1.1 per cent. The standard error of this rate of 679.1 can then be approximated by:

Rate x Relative standard error

$$= 679.1 \times \frac{1.1}{100.0}$$

$$= 7.5$$

Therefore there are two chances in three that the rate that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey is in the range 671.6 to 686.6 per 1,000 females and about nineteen chances in twenty that it is in the range 664.1 to 694.1 per 1,000 females.

7. Published figures may also be used to estimate the difference between two survey estimates (estimates of numbers, rates or percentages). Such a figure is itself

an estimate and is therefore subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two survey estimates depends on the standard errors of the original estimates and on the relationship (correlation) between the two original estimates. An approximate standard error of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

Standard error (x-y)

$$= \sqrt{\{\text{Standard error (x)}\}^2 + \{\text{Standard error (y)}\}^2}$$

While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated (unrelated) characteristics or sub-populations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

8. An example of the use of the above formula is as follows. The difference between the estimates of the number of males and females aged 15-24 years who reported a recent illness for which a doctor was consulted (Table 2) is:

$$346,600 - 235,200 = 111,400$$

The standard error of this estimate can be calculated as follows. From Table C the standard errors of each of the two original estimates can be approximated as 14,200 and 11,700 respectively. Therefore the standard error of the difference 111,400 is given by:

Standard error (difference)

$$= \sqrt{(14,200)^2 + (11,700)^2}$$

$$= 18,400 \text{ (rounded to nearest 100)}$$

Thus there are about two chances in three that the difference that would have been obtained, if all dwellings had been included in the survey, is within the range 93,000 to 129,800 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this difference is between 74,600 and 148,200.

9. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

